



### **Phase 2: Resuming Weekend Masses**

1. **Procedures:** During phase 2 parishes will follow identical liturgical, hygienic, and cleaning procedures to phase 1.
2. **Additional Considerations:** Phase 2 will create new risk factors, related to larger attendance at any particular Mass, and less time to clean between Masses.
  - a. Parishes should use phase 1 to evaluate how long it takes to clean worship space. Based on experience, parishes might consider changing Mass times to provide for adequate cleaning time between Masses, or recruiting additional volunteers for assistance.
  - b. Parishes should use phase 1, and normal weekend Mass attendance, to consider how many additional people they might expect at weekend Masses. For some parishes attendance might still be low enough that additional adjustments are not necessary. Other parishes might be required to take additional steps such as:
    - i. Dividing parish by alphabet, by last name, and asking for segments to attend any particular Mass.
    - ii. Asking for RSVP's, whether through sign up genius, Eventbrite, or another platform to reserve space. Parishes should create a rotation that ensures every interested parishioner can attend Mass once before others can reserve multiple Masses.
    - iii. Adding additional Masses to spread out congregation.
    - iv. Moving weekend Masses outdoors, or setting up overflow seating to increase possible numbers.
  - c. Because of additional cleaning and additional numbers, parishes should consider if more volunteers or ushers will be necessary at any given Mass.
3. **Timeline for Phase 2:** The diocese will give permission for counties to move into phase 2 after three criteria are met.
  - a. Parishes must have successfully completed at least two weeks of phase 1.
  - b. Parishes must have articulated a plan to address additional numbers and cleaning. This can be done during weekly phone check-ins with diocesan staff.
  - c. Parishes must be in a county that has not seen a significant increase in positive cases in recent weeks.

### **Phase 3: Resuming Broader Parish Ministries**

1. **Procedures:** Phase 3 will involve resuming parish ministry activities beyond public worship on a limited basis. These activities would include, but are not limited to, receptions, luncheons, social gatherings, and meetings larger than 10 people. During phase 3 initial gatherings will be limited to 50 people or less, with the ability to expand based on the public health situation.

2. **Additional Considerations:** Non-worship functions are relegated to the final regathering stage due to the fact that these present the same risk factors as public worship, but are not as vital to the spiritual life of parishioners.
  - a. During phase 3, all gatherings should practice appropriate social distancing and hygienic practices that lower the risk of spreading COVID-19.
  - b. Parishes should evaluate various risk factors with each gathering, and might discern that some are safer and can begin sooner than others. For example, the number and age of participants, the percentage of guests attending from out of town, and the length of gatherings all create variations in risk.
  - c. When a parish space is rented by an outside group, user agreements should articulate social distancing and hygienic expectations and be agreed upon prior to reserving space.
  - d. All parish events scheduled for phase 3 will be conditional, dependent on public health conditions.
3. **Timeline for Phase 3:** The diocese will give permission for counties to move into phase 3 after two criteria are met.
  - a. A parish must already be in phase 2.
  - b. In consultation with medical experts, the diocese discerns that community spread has diminished to the point that social gatherings and other functions can resume in relative safety.