



Diocese of Armidale

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COVID REQUIREMENTS AS AT 18TH FEBRUARY, 2021

Mass Attendance

The number of people who may be in a Church at any one time is determined by the 2 square metre rule, noting that members of the same household may sit together as a group.

Each parish will determine the maximum capacity of their Churches.

It is strongly recommended by the NSW health authorities that people attending services in places of worship wear a mask.

Singing & Chanting

In Churches the parishioners should not participate in singing or chanting, but a small choir is permitted.

No more than 5 people should be in the choir or a group of lead singers.

To minimise infection risk: all singers should face forwards and not towards each other; maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each other and any other singers, and keep 5 metres distance from all other people in the Church.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion cannot yet be given to the faithful from the Chalice at any Mass.

Those distributing Holy Communion are to use hand sanitiser immediately before and after distribution.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The use of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion is permissible when there is real necessity, that is, when the number of the faithful is so great that the Mass would be unreasonably protracted.

The decision whether to use Extraordinary Ministers is made by the Parish Priest.

Extraordinary Ministers must use hand sanitiser immediately before and after distributing Holy Communion. COVID-19 safety training must be provided to Extraordinary Ministers.

Contact details

Parishes are to provide the QR check in code for the Church in accordance with NSW requirements. Manual recording is also to be available for those who do not have the capacity to use a QR code.

Cleaning & Hand sanitiser

Pews and other touchable surfaces (e.g. handrails) are to be disinfected after each Mass.

Hand sanitiser is to be available at Church entrances.

Weddings & Funerals

The number of people at a wedding or funeral or a gathering afterwards is subject to the one person per 2 square metres rule.

COVID safety plan

Each Parish has a COVID safety plan which has been registered with the NSW Department of Health.