



Diocese of Armidale

Ph: (02) 6772 4971
Fax: (02) 5701 5140
Email: chancery@armidale.catholic.org.au

Catholic Chancery Office
3/131 Barney Street
PO Box 93
Armidale NSW 2350

COVID REQUIREMENTS

SINGING & CHANTING AT MASS – EXEMPTION FOR PALM SUNDAY MASSES

The NSW government has provided an exemption (see attached) that singing by the congregation (without masks) at religious services is allowed for 27th & 28th March, 2021. This will allow singing at the Vigil and Sunday Masses for Palm Sunday.

**THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO NSW REGULATIONS COME INTO EFFECT
AT 12.01 AM ON MONDAY 29TH MARCH, 2021**

SINGING & CHANTING AT MASS

Singing by the congregation (without masks) at religious services is allowed.

WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

There are no longer attendance caps for weddings and funerals.

CHURCH CAPACITY

The one person per 2 square metre rule still applies **HOWEVER** this is only required once 25 people are in the venue.



Exemption under the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2021 (NSW) under the Public Health Act 2010 (NSW)

I, Brad Hazzard, Minister for Health and Medical Research, under clause 43 of the *Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2021 (NSW)* (the Order), hereby grant the following exemptions to that Order:

- 1) An occupier of premises that is a place of public worship is exempt from:
 - a. clause 6 of the Order, but only to the extent the clause requires compliance with the part of the COVID-19 Safety Plan that imposes restrictions related to singing in an indoor area; and
 - b. clauses 15 and 16 of the Order.

- 2) A person principally responsible for organising a religious service on premises other than a place of public worship is exempt from:
 - a. clauses 6 and 39 of the Order, but only to the extent that those clauses require compliance with the part of the COVID-19 Safety Plan that imposes restrictions related to singing in an indoor area; and
 - b. clause 15 of the Order.

This exemption commences at the beginning of 27 March 2021 and is revoked under s.43 of the *Interpretation Act 1987* at the beginning of 29 March 2021.

Note: an occupier of a premises must continue to comply with all other directions in the Order, including the directions in clause 8.

**Brad Hazzard MP
Minister for Health and Medical Research**

Dated: 25th March 2021

1.58 pm