

GUIDELINES FOR PERSONS ATTENDING FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS

ST STEPHEN'S PARISH

(WHILE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PERIOD STILL IN EFFECT)

Before Coming to the Church

- The Church washroom **will not be available** for public use before, during or after the service.
- No person is allowed in the Sacristy before, during or after the service except for cleaning purposes.
- The Choir loft is closed to all.
- **Following protocols set by the Quebec government, as of June 14, 2021, parishioners aged 10 and over wear a 3-ply mask at all times (like the blue or white paper masks) inside the Church. Two-layered cloth masks are no longer sufficient to meet health guidelines. Parishioners can remove their mask or face covering when they are in their seat, are silent or are speaking only in a low voice and to receive communion. Exceptions will be according to the criteria published on the [Quebec.ca Coronavirus website](https://www.quebec.ca/coronavirus).**

Attending the Service

- The limits on the number of people who are permitted inside places of worship are set by the Government of Quebec and are subject to change as Covid-19 risk levels change. **Please check the St Stephen's website or contact the office to check on current attendance limits. Regardless of the numbers permitted, the Church must observe the 2M distancing when seating people from different households at all times.**
- The maximum the church can accommodate is between 60 and 70 people when the total person limit is over 100.
- Everyone must park across the street in the church parking lot except those who have mobility/accessibility issues.
- Arrive no later than 15 minutes before the service so that entry can occur in an orderly fashion.
- Enter through the west side door. Please line up down the ramp and onto the driveway respecting the 2M distancing markers.
- Everyone must disinfect their hands upon entry to the church and observe the rules of hygiene and physical distancing.
- Ushers will welcome and escort people to their seats. Everyone must sit in the seats assigned them for the duration of the service.
- Members from the same household will be allowed to sit together.
- Everyone must respect distancing when moving in and around the church and follow instructions and signage. Touch as little as possible in the church. Children must remain in their family pew.
- If there is a mass, instructions for communion will be provided at the appropriate time.
- **Important:** Ushers will direct all movement of persons entering the church, during the service including communion and exiting the church.
- While there may be music and/or a cantor, singing out loud in the assembly is not permitted.
- Please take all papers, masks, and other personal belongings with you when you leave. **Masks, gloves and tissues should be disposed of at home.**
- Please respect social distancing after the service while exiting the church and returning to your car.