



ANGLICAN EAST NL

Archdeaconry of Labrador (Revised Alert Level 3)

Issued : March 15, 2021

As evidence points to the fact that community spread of the COVID-19 Virus, and the B117 Variant of Concern, appears to be under control, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, has announced a move towards easing Public Health restrictions.

It should be noted that, although community spread seems under control and known cases of infection are trending down, this does not mean the virus, or it's variant, is no longer in our midst. The COVID-19 Virus, and the B117 Variant of Concern, is present in the province. As we slowly move towards resuming our activities as a worshipping community, this fact must remain foremost in mind. Careful attention and care must be applied in remaining fully adherent, in all circumstances, to the guidelines and directions set out in the Many Members, One Body Document.

The following information should assist parishes as they begin to resume activities. Please note that the Many Members document remains in force with the following adjustments:

General Guidelines (Pages 1 through 15)

Public worship may resume. The maximum number of people present for any public worship service cannot exceed 20 people in total (clergy and volunteers included). People attending public worship must be sat, and distanced, by household. Masks must be worn by all people in attendance yet may be removed when seated and physical distancing can be maintained from others.

Singing, and the use of wind instruments, are permitted as per the Many Members Guidelines.

The sharing of the Eucharist is permitted as per the Many Members Guidelines.

The sharing of microphones should continue to be avoided. If it is absolutely necessary for a microphone to be shared between people, the number of people utilizing that microphone should be minimal. The following must be adhered to:

The part(s) of a shared microphone, and/or the microphone mount, that has come in contact with the hands must be disinfected between users. Those using a microphone must avoid having the microphone come in contact with their lips.

The top of the Lectern, Pulpit, or Podium, if the microphone is positioned over one, or attached to one, must be disinfected between users. This would be the area of the Lectern, Pulpit, or Podium that would normally be touched by the hands.

Parish Offices (Page 15)

Parish Offices may reopen as per the direction on page 15. Masks must be worn by all people at all times while in the Church Building except when seated and physical distancing can be maintained from others.

Building Use by User Groups and Rentals (Page 15 and 16)

Rentals may resume as per the direction on page 15 noting that performance spaces remain closed and group and team sport, arts and recreation activities remain suspended.

Indoor Gatherings for Church Related Ministries and Activities (Page 16 and 17)

Indoor Gatherings for Sunday School, Godly Play, Confirmation Groups, and other Faith Formation Gatherings for Children remain suspended at this time. As well, ACW, Men's Group, and other fellowship gatherings remain suspended at this time.

Administrative gatherings, such as Vestry, Parish Council, and Committee Meetings must remain on-line unless necessity dictates that an in-person gathering must be held. Should that instance occur, the guidelines on page 17 must be adhered to noting that the maximum number of people present at any such gathering must not exceed 20 people.

Fundraising (Page 17 and Appendix B)

Fundraising events may resume virtually or as a curb-side/drop off event. No in-person fundraising events are permitted. When organizing and implementing fundraising activities, there can be no more than 20 people present inside the building at any one time, masks must be worn at all times except when seated and physical distancing can be maintained from others. When dropping off or picking up items, volunteers must not enter another person's home.

Preparing and Conducting the Liturgy (Page 23 through 33)

There is nothing further to note in this Section aside from what has already been noted above.

Pastoral Care Considerations (Page 33 and 34)

Visitation and Home Communion to people's private residences are not permitted at this time. Clergy are also reminded that they are not permitted to visit people in Acute Care, Long Term Care, or Personal Care Facilities unless an exemption has been granted by Public Health or the Regional Health Authority.

For those parishes with Rectories, it is of great importance to note that, although the Rectory is Church property, it is primarily the residence of the clergy and his or her family and must be regarded as such during this time. The Rectory is not to be accessed by anyone who is not a member of the Rectory household (the cleric and his or her family). Should the Church Office be located in the

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Rectory and need to be accessed by others to perform essential operations, consideration will have to be made to relocating such items (computer, files and such) to another secure location so as those things can be accessible without compromising the safety of those resident in the Rectory. Although masks must be worn by people while on church property, the exception is that the cleric and his or her family are not required to wear masks while in, or on, the property known as the Rectory.