



*Office of the Bishop*

## *Diocese of Fresno*

### MEMORANDUM

To: All Clergy, Religious, Parishes

From: Most Reverend Joseph V. Brennan, D.D.

Date: September 11, 2020

RE: Approved modifications for parishes in the Diocese of Fresno

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The following modifications have been approved for parishes in the Diocese of Fresno, as of **September 11, 2020**.

1. Music is allowed for outdoor services only, if the following requirements are met:
  - a. The use of one musician and one cantor, at six-foot distance from one another unless they reside in the same household. They should be at least 20 feet from the first row of the assembly.
  - b. The cantor may sing without a mask. The entire assembly may sing but must continue to follow the safety guidelines of wearing masks and maintaining six-foot distance.
  - c. Hymnals cannot be used; therefore, the suggestion is to use music with repetitive choruses or that are familiar to the assembly.
  - d. All equipment must be sanitized after every mass, including microphones and music stands, and shared books and music are discouraged.
2. Adults (ages 18 and over) are allowed to meet in groups of a maximum of ten in attendance. These groups must continue to follow the safety guidelines (masks worn, and a six-foot distance between all adults). Children are NOT allowed to be present, nor are groups of children allowed to meet. The facility used by the group must be sanitized after use, according to the diocesan guidelines.
3. Faith Formation for children has not yet been authorized. The Re-Opening Task Force is working diligently on how to open faith formation programs for children safely.

\*Note: Additional resources and prayers that might be helpful in our spiritual initiative beginning September 14, 2020 LET US PRAY! will be available on the Diocesan website.