

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT
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To: All Clergy and Diocesan Officials
From: Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Re: Phase III State Guidelines for Church Capacity
Date: September 25, 2020

Pursuant to our conversation at the presbyteral assembly, Governor Lamont announced on September 24th that church capacity has been increased to 50% capacity with a cap of 200 people effective October 8th.

The following guidelines must be observed:

1. Only every other pew can be used for seating.
2. 6 feet of distance must be maintained between individuals or family units within a pew.
3. Masks must be worn.
 - a. If a person refuses to wear a mask, then that person should be asked to leave the church unless they can provide medical proof that they have a medical condition that prohibits them from wearing a mask.
4. If the positivity rate within a particular town or city exceeds 5%, then the pastor should reduce capacity to 100 people per Mass.

Given the above protocols for seating and social distancing, it may not be possible for each parish to reach 50% of church capacity with a cap of 200.

If you do not know your church capacity, then please contact Deacon Patrick Toole (dntoole@diobpt.org) for guidance.