

As you are aware, the U.S. Supreme Court last week issued a temporary injunction barring enforcement of Governor Cuomo's executive order regarding the **head-count** capacity restrictions on religious gatherings in areas of high COVID-19 incidence. This relief is granted pending further action by the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

After consultation with the New York State Catholic Conference and our legal counsel, it is the collective opinion that our parishes can have the following capacity restrictions in your local area:

In a "Red Zone": 25 percent of maximum capacity In an "Orange Zone": 33 percent of maximum capacity In a "Yellow Zone" and "No Zone": 50 percent of maximum capacity

It is absolutely vital that our parishes continue all efforts associated with cleaning of public spaces, hygiene, wearing of masks, social distancing, and the Diocesan liturgical guidelines which still remain in effect and are available at https://www.dor.org/wp-content/uploads/MEMORANDUM-Coronavirus-update-for-Masses-with-10-people-May-21-2020.pdf . (*Please note that while this document indicates it is applicable for Mass with 10 persons, its contents should be followed in all parishes despite the "zones" listed above with occupancies of 25 percent, 33 percent or 50 percent.*)

We will continue to keep you informed as the situation warrants. Kindly understand that protocols can change regularly so please check your email daily for any further updates. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.