

Capacity Limit Announcement for “Lockdown”: moving to 10 person capacity as of November 23, 2020

We want to thank all the parishioners of **St. Mary’s Polish Roman Catholic Parish** for their ongoing support during this period of great uncertainty. It has been wonderful to see so many of you at Mass since we re-opened in June. We are especially grateful to those who have helped ensure our church is a safe place to gather – they have done incredible work!

As you know, the number of new COVID-19 cases in the Greater Toronto Area have increased significantly in recent days and, at present, Toronto and Peel Regions are in the “Lockdown Stage” as identified by the Province of Ontario. In addition, Premier Ford announced on November 20, 2020 special emergency measures that need to be taken in our area.

For this reason, as of Monday, November 23rd, we must restrict attendance inside the church to 10 people, including priests hearing confessions or a staff member/volunteer to monitor capacity restrictions. Sadly, due to these measures, public Masses must be temporarily cancelled.

Our church will open for private prayer and for the faithful to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on individual request. Please contact Rev. Brzozowski directly on 647-656-1050 to make appropriate arrangements. Weddings, funerals and baptisms will now be restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry (priest, cantor, etc.). First Holy Communion and Confirmations will need to be postponed at this time.

While I recognize it is not a substitute for attending Mass in person, I encourage you to view online/livestream/televised Masses. A full list is available at www.archtoronto.org.

We recognize these measures are extremely challenging. So many of the faithful rely on the reception of the sacraments and our churches to find solace, peace and support during this period of pandemic. Despite these new restrictions, we will make every effort to continue our outreach to you. We also ask that you find opportunities to assist those who are vulnerable or alone among us.

We will continue to update you as the situation evolves. *Please consult our website – **stmarypolishchurch.ca** – for updates on this evolving situation.* We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy.

May God continue to bless you now and always!