



Diocese of Green Bay Phases for Returning To Mass

Guiding Principles:

Bold Faith and Prudent Safety

Monitor Data and Measured Response

Collaboration between diocesan monitoring team and local pastor/pastoral leader

Follow the Process

Assumption:

The State of Wisconsin no longer has a phased order in place, however the federal guidelines still recommend a phased approach. Diocesan Gateways that would remain in place to guide diocesan phasing:

- Tracking trajectory of COVID-like cases

- Tracking trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests

- Tracking that hospitals can treat patients without crisis standards of care

Phase I:

Communion Outside of Mass in parishes, effective May 31, 2020

- Put into place safety protocols (temperature, masks, sanitization, hand hygiene)

- Monitor Communion Services: more people, less people than anticipated?

- Monitor what is happening in Dioceses of Milwaukee, Madison, LaCrosse

Phase II:

Return to Mass with up to 25% occupancy as the measured response

Phase II shall take into consideration any county health stipulations

Diocesan Gateways must be in line before moving from Phase I to Phase II

Phase I safety protocols remain in place

Each pastor/pastoral leader, in collaboration with the Diocesan Monitoring Team, will monitor the state and local data and appropriate measured response

If the diocesan gateways and county stipulations are addressed satisfactorily, a return to Mass with up to 25% occupancy goes into effect on June 14, 2020, The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.

This approach, with the monitored data and measured response in place, also acknowledges that each parish has the flexibility to go back and forth between Communion Outside of Mass or Return to Mass with up to 25% occupancy or live stream only with spiritual communion, depending upon the evolving circumstances related to the coronavirus in the weeks/months ahead and in consultation with the Diocesan Monitoring Team.

A good communication plan should be in place to communicate with parishioners to prepare for Phase II or any changes that may be necessary because of a change in local circumstances.

The above guidelines also apply to Funeral and Wedding Masses.