

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Most Rev. R. Anthony Daniels
PO Box 771
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL
A2A 2M4



Tel: 709-489-2778
Fax: 709-489-8431
tdaniels@rcdiocesegrandfalls.ca

DIOCESE OF GRAND FALLS

February 3, 2022

Dear Friends,

I met this afternoon with the Priests and Pastoral Leaders of our Diocese to review the Announcement made today by Premier Furey, Minister Haggie and Dr. Fitzgerald. They have announced that effective February 7th, Newfoundland and Labrador will move to a modified Alert Level 3. However, the number of people that can gather in our churches remains the same at 50 people or 25% of capacity whichever is less.

In my letter of January 27th, after consulting with our Priests and Pastoral Leaders, I wrote that “public celebrations of Mass will resume as soon as either one of the following occurs: a) we move to Alert Level 3 (or lower); b) we are allowed 50% capacity in our churches, or we are allowed up to 100 people in our churches.”.

Therefore, I am pleased to communicate to you that we will begin public celebrations of Sunday Mass the weekend of February 12th-13th.

All our Priests and Pastoral Leaders expressed a desire to begin public celebration of Sunday Mass as quickly as possible. However, we believe that, given the very short time available to communicate with their parishioners, organize volunteers, and create attendance lists, etc., that it would not be feasible to begin public celebrations Mass this weekend. We will, therefore, open our churches for Sunday Mass next weekend.

I am grateful to all those who, despite the hardships imposed by the pandemic, have been able to continue to support their local parishes both financially and with their time and talent. The work of our parishes has continued despite the restrictions and our parishes continue to rely on your support. Thank you.

I take this opportunity to thank the Priests and Pastoral Leaders for making themselves available, sometimes on very short notice, to meet and prayerfully discuss how best to respond pastorally and responsibly in this time of pandemic. Thank you.

I also want to recognize that, while Mass may be publicly celebrated in your parish, not everyone will feel comfortable yet attending Mass – this is completely understandable, and no one should feel pressure to attend Mass if they are not yet ready. The Dispensation from Sunday Mass is still in effect in our Diocese for anyone who might feel unsafe or at-risk attending Mass. Please be safe and be kind to one another.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Anthony Daniels', with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend R. Anthony Daniels
Bishop of Grand Falls