

PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE RISK OF COVID-19

Guidelines and procedures

Updated December 17, 2021¹

The Government of Quebec has announced a tightening of sanitary measures that will come into effect on **Monday, December 20, 2021**.

CAPACITY OF PLACES OF WORSHIP

Capacity is limited to :

- **50%** of the maximum capacity of the place,
- but **never more than 250** people.

EXEMPLE :

Your church can accommodate 600 people.

- *50% of the capacity is 300 people;*
- *the maximum allowed is 250 people*
- *you can accommodate a maximum of **250** people.*

Your church can accommodate 400 people.

- *50% of the capacity is 200 people;*
- *the maximum allowed is 250 people*
- *you can accommodate a maximum of **200** people.*

¹ These measures either are in addition to, or clarify those already in force in the diocese.

VACCINATION PASSPORTS

Vaccination passports **is mandatory** for persons attending places of worship.

- Vaccination passport verification will be done at all entrances.
- Signs will also be posted at the doors indicating this requirement².
 - You must use the *VaxiCode Verif*³ app to verify the proof of vaccination status of individuals seeking access to the church.
 - The vaccine passport can be submitted in a variety of formats (Printed, digital or via the *VaxiCode* app) and must be accompanied by a proof of identity.
 - Photo identification must be presented by anyone over the age of 14 and under the age of 75.

MEASURES FOR ALL CELEBRATIONS

- Vaccination passport **required**.
- The usual sanitary instructions, including hand hygiene at the entrance, remain in effect.
- A distance of one (1) meter may be maintained between persons alone or residing at the same address.
- Persons must remain in their seats and wear face coverings **at all times**.
- All ministers who fulfill a particular function within the liturgical Assembly must also have submitted their vaccination passport.
- Priests and other liturgical ministers may remove their masks to perform their service.
- For communion, the ministers will move to the members of the congregation.

² English poster is available to download here: <https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/en/document-003134/> ;

French poster is available to download here: <https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/document-003133/>

³ *VaxiCode Verif* is the only application authorized by the Quebec government that contains up-to-date public health rules. *VaxiCode Verif* can be downloaded for free on the usual platforms (App Store, Google Play). For more information:

<https://www.quebec.ca/sante/problemes-de-sante/a-z/coronavirus-2019/deroulement-vaccination-contre-la-covid-19/passeport-de-vaccination-covid-19/aide-pour-vaxicode-verif> (in French only).

SPECIFIC MEASURES FOR FUNERALS

- If condolences are given in a place of worship prior to the ceremony:
 - vaccination passports are not required;
 - a limit of 50 people at a time, rotation is possible.
- For the religious ceremony at the church :
 - With vaccination passports,
 - **50%** of the maximum capacity of the place,
 - but **never more than 250** people.
 - Possibility of holding a ceremony without a vaccination passport with a maximum of **25** people.
- It is important to have discussed these measures with the family **prior to** the celebration.

SPECIFIC MEASURES FOR WEDDINGS

- For the religious ceremony at the church :
 - With vaccination passports,
 - **50%** of the maximum capacity of the place,
 - but **never more than 250** people.
 - Possibility of holding a ceremony without a vaccination passport with a maximum of **25** people.
- It is important to have discussed these measures with the family **prior to** the celebration.

PRIVATE EVENT IN A RENTED ROOM

- Maximum of **10** people,
 - except for funerals and weddings, for which the limit is **25** people.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- Community organizations are allowed to provide services, including in-person activities. People must wear a mask or face covering and maintain physical distancing.
- Support group workshops and meetings (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous) are permitted up to a maximum of 250 participants, provided all remain seated and separated by at least a chair-length. Public health guidelines must be followed at all times.