

## **Pastoral Directives for Holiday Celebrations 2020**

### **General Directives for Physical Spaces in Purple Tier**

#### **Outdoor**

1. No indoor church services, devotions or religious celebrations are permitted.
2. No church building, permanent or temporary, including the parish hall, school classrooms, school and parish offices may be used for any worship service, private devotion / private prayer, or religious celebration.
3. Masks are mandatory for all attendees. Those without masks will not be allowed to participate and are encouraged to Livestream at home.
4. All processions, celebrations and related feast-day activities must remain on Diocesan / parish / school property.
5. Gloves must be worn by all procession organizers, ushers, volunteers, and participants as these individuals will be moving throughout the attendees and may touch / handle many items during the celebration.
6. No kissing, touching, or embracing of pictures, icons, statues etc. is allowed. Attendees should be advised of the requirement prior to the start of the celebration/service.
7. No singing / humming / chanting is allowed at any time.
8. No social gathering on Diocesan / parish / school property, after the service / celebration is allowed. Attendees should be advised of this prior to the start of the celebration / service.
9. Announcements of the service / celebration should include an advisory to attendees to remain at home and Livestream if they are ill or any member of their household is ill.
10. Attendees should be advised of the CDC advisory regarding individuals with high-risk conditions who should continue to 'shelter at home' and participate via Livestream.
11. Parishes should designate and usher / volunteer to oversee a first aid kit, AED, and sufficient bottles of water should an emergency arise. Ensure that the usher / volunteer possesses a cellphone to dial 911, if necessary.
12. Social distancing of six (6) feet minimum must be maintained at all times during any procession, including any outdoor seating.

13. Adhere to all other outdoor Directives, as previously issued for Mass and sacraments, when conducting such in an outdoor venue.

### **Sundays in Advent**

1. Advent wreaths may be blessed and displayed during the Masses. All candles must be LED due to the extreme fire season presently throughout the state.
2. Personal candles should not be brought to procession but should be in place prior to the beginning of Mass. All (4) candles may be in place on the first Sunday; or one may be added during each of the four Sundays in Advent.
3. If three purple and one pink LED candles are not available, it is permissible to use all white candles. A colored ribbon may be tied around the candles to indicate which week in Advent is being celebrated.

### **Immaculate Conception, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

1. This year, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception falls on a Tuesday and is a Holy Day of obligations. Parishioners should be reminded to livestream at home if it is a risk to their health or the health of their household to attend.
2. Although there are many traditional hymns for this Holy Day, no singing is permitted at this time, nor should any humming to instrumental music, cheering or any loud proclamations be allowed, as occasionally happens for this feast.
3. Instrumental music may be used as long as musicians maintain social distancing. Limit the musicians to between three (3) to five (5). No wind instruments of any kind are allowed at this time. Keyboard, guitar and other stringed instruments or percussion are permitted.
4. If the parish uses a special image of the Immaculate Conception, it should be in place at the beginning of the celebration. It may be decorated by someone from the parish before Mass, but participants should not bring flowers to place at the altar. Encourage attendees to contribute to a parish "flower fund" in anticipation of the Nativity celebration to follow that month.