



**Updated Archdiocesan Protocols  
COVID 19  
Effective Immediately**

*Churches are open in both ACT & NSW.  
The following liturgical and pastoral protocols are in place.*

***Eucharist***

1. Masses (Sundays & Weekdays) are to be celebrated with no **more than 10 people** (excluding priest and those involved in liturgical ministries) until further notice.
  - a. Communion in the hand only.
  - b. 1.5metres distancing.
  - c. Customary/recommended hygiene practices.

***Communion to Sick People and Elderly Persons***

2. Communion to sick persons in hospitals, aged care homes or private homes is permitted.
  - a. Communion in hospitals is to be distributed only by hospital chaplains or hospital pastoral care team.
  - b. Communion in aged care homes will be subject to individual institutions.

***Anointing of the Sick***

3. Permitted in general pastoral circumstances, including hospitals, aged care homes and private homes.
  - a. ***In hospitals:***
    - i. Restricted to hospital chaplains until further notice.
    - ii. If the patient has *COVID 19*, hospital chaplains to use *Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)*, i.e., **gown, gloves, mask, goggles**. Chaplains to be accompanied by a medical health worker to ensure correct donning and doffing.
    - iii. Laying on of hands above the head.
    - iv. Oil of the Sick administered only with gloves, using cotton buds/swabs.
  - b. ***In aged care homes:***
    - i. If the patient has *COVID 19*, request one of the hospital chaplains to celebrate the sacrament.
    - ii. Follow protocols in 3a. iii-iv.
  - c. ***In private homes:***
    - i. Follow protocols in 3a. iii-iv.
    - ii. Persons with *COVID 19* would be expected to be in hospital.



## **Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn**

### ***Funerals and Weddings***

4. A total of 20 people allowed for a funeral inside a church.
5. A total of 30 people allowed for a graveside funeral (excluding celebrant and people involved in liturgical ministries).
6. A total of 10 people allowed for a wedding inside a church building (excluding celebrant and those involved in liturgical ministries).

### ***Baptism***

7. 10 people permitted inside the Church building (excluding celebrant and those involved in liturgical ministries), with customary/recommended hygiene practices.
  - a. RCIA candidates can receive confirmation.

### ***Penance***

8. First rite of penance, with priest and penitent observing 1.5m spacing.
9. Second rite of penance suspended until further notice.

### ***First Penance, First Holy Communion & Confirmation***

10. Suspended until further notice.

### ***Prayer and Social Gatherings***

11. No more than 10 people permitted to gather whether inside Church or other Church facility.

### ***Register***

12. Parishes and communities are to keep an accurate register of people who come for public and private prayer.

### ***Hygiene***

13. Frequently touched surfaces to be regularly cleaned.

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Daily Mass and other spiritual resources are available at:

[www.catholicvoice.org.au](http://www.catholicvoice.org.au)

*Father Anthony Percy*

*Vicar General*

*15 May 2020*