



Example of LETTER TO PARISHIONERS for pastors/pastoral teams to consider:

Re-opening of our parish church

Dear Parishioners,

You may have heard that the Quebec government has authorized the reopening of places of worship as of June 22, now permitting public gatherings of up to 50 people.

In addition, we have recently received guidelines from the Archdiocese regarding the steps to take in order to reopen our church in a safe, secure manner.

While the procedures suggested by the Archdiocese will be our guide to re-opening, like all parishes, we face our own challenges and need to adopt our own timeline for welcoming parishioners back, while respecting the guidelines. Be assured that our first priority will be to ensure your personal safety by implementing the necessary health and security measures.

At this stage, our pastoral team is assessing how to implement the safety guidelines in keeping with the needs, resources and character of our parish.

The guidelines also recommend a gradual re-opening, beginning with making the church available for private personal prayer and offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation, before conducting public services.

Please be assured that we will make every effort to keep you informed of our plan of action, using the communications means available to our parish (such as email, telephone, postal mail and/or various social media, including ... NAME the media platforms and INSERT links here, if applicable).

If you are able to join our volunteer team that will prepare the reopening and maintaining of our church for public access, please contact:

Adjusting to life under the threat of COVID-19 during these past few months has not been easy for any of us. But despite our physical separation from one another, I remain confident and united to you in spiritual communion. Thank you for your ongoing support and co-operation as we begin our phase of gradual “deconfinement.”

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Pastor