



The Diocese of Algoma

Outdoor Worship Checklist (Amber Stage)

	Notes	Complete
<p>Each attendee above two years of age must wear a mask, unless this is contra-indicated for medical reasons. It is recommended that extra masks be available in case some people arrive without one. Even for outside gatherings, the wearing of masks is important because people are remaining in proximity to one another for an extended period of time.</p> <p>All physical distancing requirements also must be observed.</p>		
<p>The numbers at such gatherings on church grounds may not exceed 50 until further notice.</p>		
<p>A list of attendees must be filed and kept for 3 years in the parish office in case contact tracing is required.</p>		
<p>All participants should bring their own chairs. Locations for chairs should be marked using small flags or lawn paint, if possible, or as directed by greeters.</p>		
<p>Upon arrival, have attendees complete a short survey of recent travel history & health, or inquire of them if they have been out of the country within the last two weeks and if they or anyone to whom they have been exposed are showing symptoms that may indicate COVID-19 infection (e.g. fever, cough, difficulty breathing, etc.). If an individual answers in the affirmative to any of these questions, they should remain in their vehicle before, during, and after the outdoor liturgy.</p>		
<p>Washrooms must be thoroughly cleaned after the service, and checked regularly during the gathering in case cleaning or disinfecting is required. Users of the</p>		

<p>washrooms should be informed, at least through signage, of what is expected of them when it comes to cleaning after bathroom use.</p>		
<p>Congregational singing is not permitted unless all in attendance are masked and able to maintain a distance of at least 4 metres (13ft) from all other participants outside of their “household bubble.”</p>		
<p>As the Presider, preacher, cantor/soloist, and other liturgical leaders in the service will be projecting, unless using a microphone, they should speak at least 4 metres (13ft) from the participants. If microphones are used, there must be a dedicated microphone for each person using one.</p>		
<p>Consider how the requirements and recommendations about indoor worship might inform your protocols for Eucharist and other aspects of common worship in an outdoor setting.</p>		
<p>No food or drink is to be served or shared.</p>		
<p>The Bereavement Authority of Ontario requires funeral directors to have one staff person available for every ten people in attendance in order to best ensure physical distancing and other protocols are followed. These staff persons are not included in the count of people allowed to be present. This requirement is mentioned here because it is a sound practice for outdoor worship gatherings in general. Therefore, while not a requirement, it is recommended that sufficient greeters be scheduled to provide for this 1:10 ratio.</p>		
<p>For parishes lacking adequate green space and wishing to hold an outdoor service, it may be possible to use parks or other public spaces. Check with local authorities for regulations regarding booking, rental fees, etc. Most municipalities require a certificate of insurance (or charge you for the same) to cover liability. Our insurer can provide such certification. Another parish may also allow you use their property. If the latter opportunity is extended and accepted, that parish’s protocols must be followed, provided they conform to diocesan, provincial, and regional guidelines and requirements.</p>		