

March 12, 2021

**Guidelines for Singing and Music at Liturgies During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

These new guidelines on singing (which, for this document, includes chanting) and playing music at liturgies replaces these older pandemic guidelines and directives or the portions indicated:

- *Guidelines for the Resumption of Public Masses in the Diocese of Sacramento* (revised May 26, 2020) C(2)(a)(first two bullets only)
- *Singing Guidelines* (email from Very Rev. Michael Vaughan to priests on July 4, 2020)
- *Directives for the Celebration of Outdoor Masses* (July 9, 2020) E(4)(second sentence only)
- *Deacon Ministry During COVID-19* (August 31, 2020) IV(Public Mass – Indoor & Outdoor: General Guidelines & Principles)(8<sup>th</sup> bullet only)

Singing and playing wind instruments are permitted subject to the restrictions below based on the county risk level (purple, red, orange, or yellow) and whether the liturgy is indoors or out.

<b>Outdoor Liturgies</b>	<b>Indoor Liturgies</b>	
<b>All Tiers</b>	<b>Purple (Widespread)</b>	<b>Red (Substantial) Orange (Moderate) Yellow (Minimal)</b>
Musicians who are singing or playing a wind instrument must maintain six feet of physical distance from non-musicians and other musicians if they are wearing face coverings or 12 feet of physical distance if they are not wearing face coverings.	Musicians singing or playing a wind instrument must wear face coverings at all times.	
The assembly may sing or chant as long as they wear face coverings and maintain physical distancing.	The assembly may not sing.	
	Such musicians must maintain at least 12 feet of physical distance from other musicians and 24 feet of physical distance from the assembly.	Musicians must maintain physical distancing from the assembly and other musicians.
	During a liturgy no more than ten musicians may sing or play wind instruments.	
	Musicians are encouraged to be tested for COVID-19.	

When possible musicians are encouraged to have individual microphones. Microphones should be sanitized after use. The number of people setting up and breaking down equipment should be minimized.

Care should be taken to ensure musicians are able to receive communion during the liturgy.

As before, the presider may participate in song only while in the sanctuary. Also, per *Guidelines for the Resumption of Public Masses in the Diocese of Sacramento* (revised May 26, 2020)

D(2)(b) the cantor still remains at their place rather than using the ambo.