



DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
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MEMORANDUM

15 July 2020

The Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor

TO: *All Parishes, Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians*
FM: *Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert*
RE: *Governor Wolf's Recent Order {Update}*
Cc: *Reverend Keith A. Mathur, Director, Office for Divine Worship*

Earlier this afternoon, Governor Wolf announced further restrictions regarding the number of persons who can gather together in an indoor setting. Effective, 12:01 a.m., 16 July 2020, the Governor has restricted the size of groups to 25 people.

Mindful that previous Orders from the Governor exempt Religious Houses of Worship, the Diocese of Allentown will continue to follow the current diocesan guidelines (Green Phase, Part I).

I am proud of the dedication to the guidelines that you and the People of God in your local communities have exemplified over the past six weeks. There have been some minor challenges, but the current diocesan guidelines combined with common sense measures concerning masking and social distancing will guide us for the foreseeable future.

Should you experience any resistance in the days and weeks ahead, please feel free to remind parishioners that no one is obliged to attend Mass at this time. Anyone advanced in age, has an underlying health condition, or is uncomfortable with attending Mass should not attend.

Thank you for your courageous leadership and perseverance during this Pandemic.