



## St. Christopher's Parish

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## Our Lady Help of Christians

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My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I approach my first weekend of celebrations of Holy Masses at St. Christopher and Our Lady Help of Christians, I am happy to announce we are now ready to have regular Sunday Masses (including Saturday Vigil Masses) return to Watford beginning this weekend, Saturday, July 24 and 25!

That being said; I would like to re-iterate that ALL provincial and diocesan COVID-19 protocols and directives will be upheld. Everyone will be expected to be in full compliance.

1. Masks are now required by law in all public buildings, which includes churches. There is an exemption for those who have a medically documented condition and for children under the age of two years. Those who refuse to wear masks without a proper exemption will be turned away at the door of the church. Pastor/Administrators of parishes are obliged to enforce this directive. If certain people persist in not wearing masks, they will be informed by registered mail that they will not be allowed into the church should they present themselves again. This directive applies equally to those who remove masks once they are in their seats. Exemptions must be approved by the Pastor/Administrator prior to attending Mass.
2. Everyone attending Mass must provide their name and contact information.
3. You must be feeling well including monitoring of your temperature prior to coming to church. Anyone experiencing an elevated temperature or other flu symptoms must refrain from attending.
4. Now that we are only limited by requirement of physical distance for seating capacity, families and families who work together (ie. bubbles or cohorts) may be seated together. Please be aware that once the church is at capacity all others will be turned away. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Fines are set by the Province for those not following COVID-19 provisions as set within the current legislation – Ontario Regulation 520/21 (July 9, 2021) and Ontario Regulation 364/20 (July 9, 2021). Failure to comply could result in fines for both the parishioner and person in charge up to \$5,000. An organization failing to comply and/or enforce COVID-19 protocols can also be fined up to \$500,000. Bishop Fabbro's COVID Update #18 (February 26, 2021) outlines his expectations at all parishes across the Diocese of London, and, until updated, is the basis for operations at both St. Christopher's and Our Lady Help of Christians. Failure to comply to these expectations will result in the removal of an individual's and/or family's access to the Church.

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Fr. Matthew Bedard