

Parish & School Reopening Plan

Diocese of San Diego

March 25, 2021



Agenda



1. Prayer & Welcome
2. The Goal & the Plan for Reopening
3. Diocesan Trends
4. Public Health Order for Places of Worship
5. The “Big Four”
6. Shared Space Considerations
7. Q&A with SD County Health
8. Resources
9. Reminder: You are loved!

Prayer & Welcome



The Goal

- A phased removing of restrictions on liturgical, pastoral, catechetical and social life in our parishes, schools and organizations.

The Plan

- **On Pentecost (May 23)**, restrictions limiting activities related to faith formation, prayer, worship and catechetics will be lifted for groups of less than fifty people.
- Social distancing and masking must be observed.
- There can be no social gatherings at this point.
- **On September 1**, social gatherings and all of the usual activities of parish life can return with social distancing and masking.
- ***It will be the decision of each parish or school at this point to determine how shared space utilization should be implemented from that date onward (e.g., pastor, DCM, principal).***

Diocesan Trends

The Bottom Line

Vaccines are up. Case rates are down.





County of San Diego - Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch

Rolling Percentage of Positive Cases Among Tests by Date Reported



The rolling average percentage for 14-day time period

Rolling Percentage of Positive Cases Among Tests by Date Reported (March 25, 2021)



County of San Diego - COVID-19 Vaccination

Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch - Updated 3/24/2021

San Diego County Residents Vaccinated*

839,214 31.2% 

San Diego County Residents Fully Vaccinated*

510,640 19% 

May not include all administered doses and individuals vaccinated due to reporting delays.

*Percentage population vaccinated among county residents who are 16 years and older.

Doses Received

1,592,395 

Total Doses Administered*

1,508,955 

Pending Documentation

3,145 

To Be Administered**

80,295  

*May not include all administered doses and individuals vaccinated due to reporting delays. Total doses administered includes vaccines that have been recorded in SDIR and CAIR, including Federal Pharmacy Program. Some healthcare providers, including Veteran's Affairs, the Department of Defense, some tribal entities, and some prisons do not report to SDIR.

County of San Diego Vaccination Dashboard (March 25, 2021)



COVID-19 Tier Metrics Imperial County

4.1

New cases per day per 100k (Unadjusted)

9.77%

Positivity Rate

Data Last Updated (Última Actualización):

3/24/2021, 8:30:00 AM

Imperial County COVID-19 Tier Metrics (March 24, 2021)



State's Assessment of Imperial County (March 24, 2021)

COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE:

Places of Worship and Providers of Religious Services and Cultural Ceremonies

July 29, 2020

covid19.ca.gov



Per Public Health Order (February 6, 2021)

A gathering cannot include more than three households. However, a religious service/worship or cultural ceremony including a wedding ceremony is allowed. A religious service/worship is allowed indoors at 25% capacity of the building. For outdoor services, there is no limit on the number of people, however you are limited to the 'natural setting'. For more information see the [State Guidance on Places of Worship and Providers of Religious Services and Cultural Ceremonies](#).



Places of Worship: Health & Safety Guidance



Places of Worship

In response to recent judicial rulings, the interim capacity limits below are effective immediately. The linked guidance is in the process of being updated. All other restrictions in the guidance remain in place.

Tier status

Widespread (purple)

- Outdoor or indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities are strongly discouraged and must be limited to 25% of capacity

Substantial (red)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 25% of capacity

Moderate (orange)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 50% of capacity

Minimal (yellow)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 50% of capacity



1. Temperature & Symptom Screenings

- Each school is required to implement screening and other procedures for all staff and students entering the facility
- Temperature screenings should be conducted with a no-touch thermometer and screen at a fever threshold of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or more

2. Physical Distancing

- It is recommended that six feet of distance is allowed between individuals where feasible
- Six feet of distance is required between staff and students
- Where six feet of distance is not possible, it is recommended to wear a facial covering



The Big Four



3. Face Coverings

- Students in all grade levels K-12 are required to wear face coverings at all times, while at school, unless exempted.
- All staff must use face coverings in accordance with [CDPH guidelines](#) unless Cal/OSHA standards require respiratory protection.

4. Increased Sanitation

- Schools should teach and reinforce frequent hand washing, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff
- Limit use of shared objects and equipment
- Schools should intensify cleaning, disinfection and ventilation



The Big Four

Shared Spaces: *What do we need to consider?*

- Discuss the best timing for reopening ministries, based on liturgical and school calendars.
 - Restrict use of shared items, particularly personal classroom items. If any equipment or catechetical materials need to be shared, they should be cleaned in-between each use.
 - Ensure that staff and volunteers are informed in CV-19 safety & mitigation.
 - Ensure that children are educated in CV-19 basics (e.g., The Big Four).
 - Assess whether additional personal protective equipment (PPE) is needed.
- Cleaning and sanitizing shared spaces is required between each group's usage, particularly high-touch areas.
 - Assess immediate budget needs to ensure safety of all church members.
 - Re-evaluate scheduling of groups to allow for appropriate cleaning in-between usage.



Q&A

- Will distance between desks remain at 6 ft or go down to 3 ft?
- Can ministry meetings take place in the classrooms in the evenings if furnishings are sanitized before & after?
- Is it required that all students return in person for the next school year?
- Will we have to remain in cohorts even when we move out of the red tier and into the orange tier?
- What if some instructors choose to remain at home, can we offer that particular class virtual instruction?
- What type of sanitizer should parishes and schools use to effectively disinfect the classroom and meeting areas?
- What is the appropriate time to wait after sanitization takes place for the classroom/desks to be used?

See: Cleaning Fact Sheet



COVID-19 Reopening Resources

- [County of San Diego Public Health Order \(February 6, 2021\)](#)
- [Imperial Valley Public Health Department COVID-19 Resource Page](#)
- [COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Instruction Framework & Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year \(Updated March 20, 2021\)](#)
- [County of San Diego Faith-Based Organizations Sector](#)
- [COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE: Places of Worship and Providers of Religious Services and Cultural Ceremonies](#)
- [Safe Reopening Supplemental Guide for Faith-Based Organizations & Places of Worship \(SD County\)](#)
- [Workplace Safety and Cleaning Guidelines \(San Diego County Office of Education\)](#)
- [Safer Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting Strategies to Reduce and Prevent COVID-19 Transmission \(University of Washington\)](#)
- [CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidance](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Information:
 - [San Diego](#)
 - [Imperial County](#)

Thank you!

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To ALL of our parish and school ministers!

