

## The Right Reverend David Edwards Bishop of Fredericton

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## Dear all

As you may be aware there was further guidance issued this afternoon around public buildings and gatherings of 50 people or fewer. Essentially as of Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, when entering public buildings, which are "open to anyone to enter", everyone who enters must "wear a face covering that covers their mouth and nose".

I have to say that I had no idea that this was coming and the logic of it makes little sense to me, given that previous guidance says that we can have services on Sunday, the 7<sup>th</sup>, and the new guidelines do not come into effect until the 9<sup>th</sup>.

On Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, there is a meeting between the leaders of faith communities and provincial officials which might be the first opportunity I have to clarify the situation, though I will try early next week when government offices are open.

The only way I can read the statement at present is that on Sunday people do not have to wear masks to enter a building and on Tuesday they do.

Please click here for the text of the <u>revised provincial Mandatory Order for COVID-19</u>, especially noting paragraph 12.

Also, please reference this <u>Q&A document</u> issued by the province yesterday (June 4) about religious services. It is helpful, but some of it is superceded by today's order.

I am sorry that this has come so late in the day. Please refer to our <u>COVID-19 operational</u> <u>plan page</u> over the weekend to see if there any further developments.

In Christ's service.

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