Indications for the implementation of the measures provided in the Protocol for the celebration of Masses with the people in force from May 18, 2020

THE ORGANIZATION OF SPACES

- For a greater protection of the parish priest in defining the maximum capacity and arrangement of places in his church, it is highly recommended to have these capacity certified by a professional, specialized in safety regulations (such as, for example, the responsible of the security on work or of fire prevention).
- The General Vicar allowed the celebrations even in open spaces, keeping the distances provided by the health authority; also these spaces should be certified by a professional, to ensure safety and limit the maximum capacity.
- The certification, both for open and closed spaces, require compliance with the safety distance established by the health authority, which will be indicated through special signs that show where to sit.
- Specific places has to be provided for the participation to the celebrations of people with disability. Special areas may be reserved for members of families living in the same house.
- The Protocol indicate the interpersonal distance in the measure of one (1) meter lateral and frontal.
- Realize or continue to ensure the celebration of streaming Masses, thus also to nourish the faith and the community bond for those who cannot or do not consider prudent participate to the Mass.
- Consider to increase the number of Masses only if the expected participation significantly exceeds the capacity of the celebration place.

ACCESS MANAGEMENT

- At the entrance of each church hang a poster with the essential indications, among which do not miss:
  1. the maximum number of participants allowed related to the capacity of the building;
  2. the entry ban for who has respiratory/flu symptoms, body temperature equal to or higher than 37.5° C or has been in contacted with SARSCoV-2 positive people in the previous days;
  3. the obligation, accessing to the church, to always respect the safety distance, the observance of hand-hygiene rules, the use of suitable personal protective equipment, starting with a mask that covers nose and mouth.
- Use different doors for entry and exit in order to avoid the crossing of the faithful. Where it is not possible, guarantee alternate flows of entry and exit.
- During the entry and exit procedures, respect the expected distance of 1.5 meters.
- During the entry and exit of the faithful, the doors remain open to promote a safer flow and avoid the touch of doors and handles.
- Each person entering will sit in the free place farthest from the entrance.
- The exits have to be spread and start from the benches closest to the doors.
- For the management, we recommend to provide volunteers who are easily identifiable. Especially on the first Sunday of opening, we suggest to ask also the collaboration of the Municipal Police or the Civil Protection or other similar associations.
- Put sanitizing liquids at the entrance of places of worship.
- The leaflets for Mass can be distributed, asking to the faithful to bring their own home. Any leaflets left on the benches will be eliminated, thus avoiding using it again. Do not provide any other booklet for the liturgy, including songbooks.

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR THE FAITHFUL

- The faithful have to wear masks, as required by regional legislation for places open to the public.
- Place the ambo microphones in a way that they are not held in hand and their stand must not be moved or adjusted in height by several people. Readers will use gloves.
- Omit the exchange of peace and the offertory procession.
- An organist (or musician) may be present, but in this phase, the choir may not.
- Do not collect offers during the celebration, but through special containers placed at the entrances or in another suitable place.

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR THE CELEBRANT AND OTHER MINISTERS

- To facilitate the respect of the distancing rules, it is necessary to minimize the number of concelebrants and ministers, who have in any case to respect the distance provided, also in the presbytery.
- The celebrant has to wear the mask for the distribution of Communion.
- Avoid concelebrating. Where necessary, each concelebrant use his own chalice and big particle. Each celebrant and concelebrant purify his chalice exclusively.
- The deacon receive the Communion only in the species of bread or with a different chalice just for him, which he himself will purify, while he will not purify the chalice used by the celebrant.
- A limited number of people can do the service at the altar.
- During the celebration, always cover well the particles for the faithful with a cloth or other suitable cover.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

- The big particle, held in the hand by the celebrant, will be entirely consumed by him.
- To distribute the Communion, the celebrant, eventually the deacon and the extraordinary minister have to take care of their hands hygiene and put on disposable gloves. Moreover– putting on the mask, taking maximum care to cover their nose and mouth and maintaining an adequate safety distance – they also have the attention to offer the particle without touching the hands of the faithful.
- The parish priest, considering the conformation of spaces, identify the most appropriate way to distribute the Communion, choosing among the list below. He has to explain the chosen way to the Assembly. The distribution of Communion can only take place on the hand, in one of these two ways:
    1. the faithful remain at their bench and the ministers pass through to distribute the Eucharist. After offering the particle on the hand, the minister move sideways and the faithful lowering the mask, communicate themselves, doing it not in front of the minister;
    2. the faithful line up to receive the Communion always keeping the distance of a 1.5 meter. Once received, they move sideways, lower the mask and communicate themselves, doing it not in front of the minister.

ABOUT THE CELEBRATION OF CERTAIN SACRAMENTS

- Starting from May 18 apply the present provisions for each celebration.
- For funerals, apply the rules already communicated until May 17.
- For Baptisms, avoid the ritual by immersion always preferring the infusion and use disposable gloves for anointing. The minister maintains an appropriate distance from the baptizing person and from the

parents and godparents; only the parents do the sign of the cross on the child's forehead; omit the rite of Effata.

- For marriages, the maximum number of faithful who can attend the rite depend on the capacity of the church used, to ensure the correct interpersonal distance.
- For the Anointing of the Sick, the priest uses a disposable mask and gloves.
- The ordained minister bring the Viaticum, without touching the lips of the sick, using disposable mask and gloves.
- To realize the Sacrament of Reconciliation employ large and airy places, to ensure the full compliance with the distancing measures and the confidentiality requested by the Sacrament. Priest and faithful always have to wear mask.
- The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation is postposed.

SANITATION OF PLACES AND OBJECTS

- Sanitize regularly places of worship, including sacristies, at the end of any celebration, cleaning the surfaces with suitable antiseptic detergents. Moreover, do the exchange of air.
- A note from the Advocacy Curia Office specifies the methods of sanitation, clarifying that it is not necessary to contact specialized firms, but using solutions made up of 70% alcohol is enough.
- Do the exchange of air.
- At the end of each celebration, carefully disinfect the sacred vessels, ampoules and all the other objects used, as well as microphones.
- It is recommended to each presbyter to use only and always his own chalice. In the event that several celebrants use the same chalice in different Masses, it has to be well purified by the priest using it and sanitized at the end of the celebration.
- Change the purifier at each celebration.

Milan, May 9, 2020