

## **Gatherings and Size Limitations**

Effective today, 12/18/2020, Governor Hogan has announced a new Health Advisory limiting all indoor gatherings to no more than 10 participants. The Archdiocese previously communicated that all parishes were to adhere to the previously issued Order from the Governor limiting indoor gatherings to 25 individuals. Moreover, all locations were advised that some counties had enacted more restrictive requirements that lowered the allowable number of attendees to 10 which were to be followed.

In light of the most recent announcement, the Archdiocese is now advising all parishes across the Archdiocese to adhere to the limitation of no more than 10 individuals per an indoor gathering. As a reminder, the Archdiocesan guidance does allow for multiple gatherings on a parish campus, so long as each gathering has its own designated area, does not share any common areas or restroom facilities, and attendees for the various gatherings enter and exit either by separated doorways or arrival and departure times are staggered. Also all such gatherings must adhere to all social distancing, masking and sanitization requirements.

Further, this limitation on gatherings does NOT include religious services such as liturgies, sacraments or other recognized religious ceremonies. Rather, all parishes are to restrict religious services to 1/3 the capacity of the religious facility, with the exception of Baltimore City which is limited to 25% of the normal capacity of the religious facility.

If you have any questions or require clarifications, please forward to [riskmanagement@archbalt.org](mailto:riskmanagement@archbalt.org).