



The Catholic  
Archdiocese  
of Edmonton

## Office of Communications

January 13, 2021

The Archdiocese of Edmonton has updated guidelines for some aspects of the Holy Season of Lent.

### Ash Wednesday (February 17)

- Current Provincial and Archdiocesan restrictions should be followed.
- For the imposition of ashes, the following must be observed:
  1. After the homily, the presiding priest is to bless the ashes following the formula provided by the Roman Missal.
  2. After blessing the ashes, the presiding priest, holding the ashes, is to say the formula of imposition from the sanctuary (“Repent, and believe in the Gospel” or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”).
  3. Masks must be worn by all the faithful as they approach to receive the ashes.
  4. For the imposition of ashes, the faithful are to bow their heads to allow the presiding priest to sprinkle ashes on their heads. Note that the imposition of ashes this year is to be done by sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head, without touching the forehead of the faithful, and in silence as the formula of imposition is said to everyone from the sanctuary.
  5. The same protocols that are followed regarding safe social distancing during communion procession must be followed during the procession for the imposition of ashes.

### Rite of Election (February 20-21)

Due to the limited number of people that can be welcomed at St. Joseph’s Basilica at the moment, pastors will celebrate the Rite of Election in their parishes during the weekend of February 20-21, 2021.

### Palm Sunday

Masks must be worn, and the church must remain closed to the public while the palms are placed in the pews by designated ushers before Mass. This process can be repeated between masses after pews are disinfected.

### Chrism Mass and Paschal Triduum

The Chrism Mass is tentatively scheduled for March 29, 2021, and the Paschal Triduum on April 1-4, 2021. If current restrictions continue to be in place, three or four parishioners will be invited to come to St. Joseph’s Basilica to represent their whole deanery at the Mass. More information will be provided for the Chrism Mass and the Paschal Triduum closer to the date.

Questions or concerns should be directed to the Office of Divine Worship at [divineworship@caedm.ca](mailto:divineworship@caedm.ca)