



## Funeral and Weddings in a Time of Pandemic

As people of ritual, we find it extremely difficult when the rites around some of the most important moments in our lives are not able to take place in their usual manner. In grief and in joy, the human inclination is to gather together with those who are important to us to remember, honour and celebrate one another. In the midst of this pandemic, however, gathering for funerals and weddings could put others at grave risk of contracting COVID-19. The following guidelines, therefore are to be followed by all clergy in the Diocese of Huron in order to provide as much safety as possible for those who are part of these important rites.

- Indoor weddings and indoor funerals may be held in accordance with the AMBER Stage Guidelines of the Diocese of Huron which may be found [here](#).
- If between 25-100 persons attend a graveside funeral or interment, the Bereavement Authority of Ontario requires that one (1) person be present for each 10 people. Physical distance of 6 feet (2m) must be maintained between those who are not in the same household.
- The Church of England has provided resources to assist those who are not able to attend funerals of loved ones. These resources can be found [here](#).
- Outdoor weddings with no more than 100 people (including the officiant, photographers, wedding planners, etc) may be celebrated with the prior approval of the Bishop of Huron in accordance with the diocesan policy on weddings outside of a church. The guidelines may be found [here](#).