

Hello,

I was adversely affected by Gov Walz extended lock down.

1) My son was ordained a priest May 30, 2020. Instead of being a joyous occasion surrounded by friends and family, in the Cathedral of St Paul which holds 3000 people, each man in his ordination class of 7 was allowed only 20 attendees. There was no procession of most of the priests in the Archdiocese as in the custom.

Instead of a post ordination reception, everyone went home as we were only allowed gatherings of 10 people.

His first Mass was celebrated the next day. Instead of a joyous occasion for our entire parish, we had a by invitation only Mass with a maximum of 200 or 250 invited. Instead of a parish celebration/reception with personal blessings by our son, we were forced to hand out cookies in a "drive through" blessing line with people in cars.

2) I was hit by a car April 26, 2022 while a pedestrian. I was allowed only the same two people to visit me my entire hospital stay of 10 days. Because my son was a member of the clergy, an exception was made for him. My husband and daughter were my two allowed visitors. My other two sons, my father, and my in-laws were not allowed to visit.

3) Christmas 2020, my father and his wife (my mother died in 2018), didn't want to host our extended because of the fear surrounding the whole COVID thing. Each of my siblings and their children visited separately to keep the count below 10 people.

My father-in-law was also concerned, but my mother-in-law insisted. With my husband's siblings, his uncle, and our children the count was illegal 13.

4) My niece was married Dec 2020. The wedding reception was an "illegal" oversized gathering at my brother's house for immediate family members.

5) As practicing Catholic who attend Mass every Sunday (and I personally attend Friday and Saturday as well), we were denied attending Mass until Archbishop Hebda and several other religious leaders threatened to break the law and open churches Memorial Day weekend 2020. Only then did Governor Walz negotiate and allow churches to be open at reduced levels. (Although the George Floyd memorial service broke most of the rules churches were suppose to follow.)

I am sure there are other instances, but these come to mind.

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