



ARCHIDIOCÈSE
OTTAWA-CORNWALL
ARCHDIOCESE

Chancery
1247 Kilborn Place
Ottawa ON K1H 6K9
www.archoc.ca

La Chancellerie
1247, place Kilborn
Ottawa ON K1H 6K9
☎ 613 738-5025 ☎ 613 738-0130

REVISED

Date: January 13, 2021
To: Parishes, priests and deacons
From: Fr. Dan Van Delst, Chancellor
Re: Province of Ontario – Second Provincial Emergency to Address COVID-19

On January 12, 2021 the Province of Ontario announced a Second Provincial Emergency to address COVID-19 crisis. It comes into effect starting at 12:01am on **January 14, 2021**. The stay-at-home order requires everyone to remain at home with exceptions for essential purposes. It will last 28 days and can be extended.

Parishioners are encouraged to adhere to this directive to remain home with exceptions for essential purposes.

Continuing January 14, religious services (includes Mass), weddings and funerals (and baptisms) will be limited to 10 people (including priest and volunteers) indoors or outdoors with physical distancing and compliance with rules on face coverings as long as we are in a Provincial Emergency. Even for these smaller services the COVID-19 protocols need to be observed. Parishes are strongly encouraged to livestream Masses during the Provincial Emergency.

Churches may have times when they are open for private prayer respecting the limit of 10 people indoors (including priest and volunteers). However, please remember that volunteers are needed for screening and disinfecting surfaces whenever the church is open.

Parishes are encouraged to continue to make the sacrament of Confession available while respecting the COVID-19 preventative measures.

In person indoor meetings or non-religious-service gatherings are not allowed during the time of the Provincial Emergency.

Parish offices are to be closed to the public and working on a curbside model of service. The Pastor is to decide which parish staff are required to work on-site according to the following requirement: *Each person responsible for a business or organization that is open shall ensure that any person who performs work for the business or organization conducts their work remotely, with limited exception, for instance, where the nature of their work requires them to be on-site at the workplace.*

Should you have any questions, please contact the Chancery.

Thank you for your continued cooperation during these challenging days. Your collaboration in following these guidelines is saving lives.