



ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

16 April 2021

Dear Monsignor/Clergy,

This afternoon, the Premier announced that an enhanced public health measure comes into effect Saturday, April 17 at 12:01 a.m. extending the Stay-at-Home order for an additional two weeks. Also, indoor and outdoor religious rites, weddings and funerals are once again limited to ten people as of Monday, April 19 at 12:01 a.m. I share the Government's concern about the importance of taking reasonable precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and COVID-19 Variants. The Archdiocese continues in its willingness to make necessary adjustments to our safety protocols upon review. As Catholics we seek to be good citizens in our society (cf. Romans 13:1-7).

We can worship in a way that reflects both love of God and love of our neighbours (cf. Mark 12:30-31), meeting both our religious duties and accepted public health and safety standards, as reflected in our COVID-19 Safety Plan. It may, however, once again prove too great a challenge in some parishes to continue with public Masses. Should this be the case in your parishes, remember that you continue to have my support.

I urge all the members of our Archdiocese to intercede on behalf of all those suffering the effects of COVID-19 and to pray for those who continue to care for the sick and the dying. Let us give thanks to God for all those who work in healthcare and essential services. I commend you all to the care of the Blessed Virgin.

Your generous leadership in these times of restriction continue to be appreciated.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Michael Mulhall
Archbishop of Kingston