



# ARCHDIOCESE OF AGANA

CHANCERY OFFICE

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News Release

## **Archdiocese creates 24-Hour Information Helpline for Catholic Church Matters Related to COVID-19**

**1 (800) 961-9848**

The Archdiocese of Agaña has developed a 24-Hour Information Helpline to assist Guam Catholics who have questions or are seeking information about Church matters related to COVID-19. The national toll-free number is 1 (800) 961-9848.

With the temporary suspension of public Masses in the archdiocese, closures of parish offices and schools, as well cancellations of meetings and gatherings, Archbishop Michael Byrnes has assigned several Guam priests and lay staff to man the 24-Hour Information Helpline to field questions and offer direction as appropriate.

The helpline connects the faithful to pastoral assistance and information sources.

Helpline workers are comprised of archdiocese clergy and laypersons. Callers will be asked if they need to speak to a priest, and workers will coordinate as appropriate with the callers' parish priests or with other available priests based on the urgency of the needs.

The helpline can address questions about Anointing of the Sick, Last Rites, Reconciliation (Confession), spiritual direction, online Mass schedules, Mass intentions, and prayer requests. As appropriate, callers will be encouraged to seek additional support by their parish priests or certified, licensed professionals.

**A graphic showing the helpline number and basic subject areas it can help with accompanies this news release.**

*Sent by Tony C. Diaz*

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