



Infifax



Pastoral Letter: 'Pandemic and Faith Life'

To the faithful of the Diocese of Timmins.

In this important season of Lent, I am pleased to present my Pastoral Letter: *'Pandemic and Faith Life: It is good to hope in silence for the Lord's deliverance.'*

Since January 2020, the whole world has been living under threat of Covid-19. Every day we are bombarded with worrisome information, statistics concerning the planetary spread of this virus. We have radically modified our lifestyle, without a end in sight and in return to normality being seen yet. How do we, as believers, live these difficult times? In this regard, I offer a few avenues for reflection to nourish our faith, particularly during this Lenten season when we are invited to a more fervent Christian life.

In this way I invite you to look lucidly at the present crisis (n. 1-6); then I propose the light that **faith** can shed on the meaning of suffering and of God's attitude towards it (n. 7-22); I recall the contribution of **hope**, that indispensable and stimulating asset (n. 22-29); finally, I stress the need for authentic **charity** that aims at the total good of each person and of all humanity, thus becoming a source of renewal for the world (n. 30-34).

I hope that this Pastoral Letter will enable the faithful of the Diocese of Timmins to live through the difficult times we are going through in the certainty that God accompanies us and stimulates us to bring the light of faith and the fire of charity.

With my blessing.

+ *Serge Poitras*

✠ Serge Poitras
Bishop of Timmins