



DIOCÈSE DE HEARST-MOOSONEE DIOCESE

Bureau de la Chancellerie- The Chancery Office

C.P. 1330 - P.O. Box 1330

Hearst, Ontario - P0L 1N0

Tél. - Phone: (705) 362-4903 - Fax: (705) 362-4421

Date: April 16, 2021

To: Parishes, priests and deacon

From: Deacon Jean Beausoleil, Chancellor

Re: Province of Ontario – Enhanced Restrictions for Stay-at-home Order and extension

On April 16, 2021 the Province of Ontario announced it is enhancing Provincial Emergency and Stay-at-home order. It further restricts a number of activities including attendance at religious services. Also the Stay-at-home order has been extended an additional two weeks until May 20, 2021.

Starting Monday April 19, religious services (includes Mass), weddings and funerals (and baptisms) will be limited to 10 people indoors or outdoors (including priests hearing confessions and volunteers required to monitor capacity restrictions) with physical distancing and compliance with rules on face coverings as long as we are in a Provincial Emergency.

The COVID-19 protocols need to be observed.

Parishes are strongly encouraged to livestream Masses during the Provincial Emergency. Drive-in services are allowed.

Parishioners are encouraged to adhere to this directive to remain home with exceptions for essential purposes. 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. Pastors are to strictly limit parish staff required to work on-site according to the directive: 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.