



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

MEMORANDUM

To: Pastors in Hamilton Region

From: Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Chancellor

Date: 19 December 2020

Re: Hamilton Region Lockdown

Following yesterday's announcement by the Ontario Government that the Hamilton Region will move to the "grey "lockdown" zone effective at midnight on Monday, December 21, 2020, please note that **ALL public Masses are cancelled in Hamilton Region** beginning on Tuesday, December 22nd for at least two weeks, and until further notice.

According to the protocols for the "Grey Zones", the maximum capacity for any indoor gathering is 10 persons. This include religious services, weddings and funerals. For this reason, there are no public Masses to be celebrated in our parishes during the coming weeks.

All priests are encouraged to celebrate Mass each day without the participation of the faithful, and on Sundays, and the Solemnities of Christmas, Mary Mother of God and Epiphany, to celebrate for the intentions of parishioners.

His Excellency Bishop Crosby has already dispensed all Catholics in the Diocese from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays for the duration of the pandemic. This includes Christmas and New Year's Masses.

You are asked to advise your parishioners this weekend that there are no public Masses in any parishes in the Hamilton Region during at least the next two weeks. You may encourage them to tune into Salt and Light TV or CHCH TV for the telecast of the Midnight Mass from the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King. You may also encourage families to gather for prayer in their home using the resource that is posted on our [Diocesan Website](#) in lieu of their participation at Christmas Mass. Of course, parishes which are able to livestream their Masses during the Christmas season are encouraged to do so.

Let us continue to pray for an end to the pandemic and for the health and safety of all.