



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

700 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8P 1C7

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

MEMORANDUM

To: All Priests, Deacons and Parish Ministers

From: Msgr. Murray Kroetsch
Chancellor

Date: 21 December 2020

Re: New Ontario COVID-19 Restrictions

Effective December 21, 2020, Hamilton Region entered the Grey Zone which means that no public Masses are permitted. There are no public Masses permitted beginning today and throughout the Christmas Season.

Premier Doug Ford announced today that the entire Province will enter a lockdown period beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, December 26, 2020 and that the lockdown will extend for a period of at least 28 days. This means that Parishes in Hamilton Diocese which are outside the Region of Hamilton are able to celebrate public Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. These will be the last public Masses until the Province-wide lockdown is ended.

Beginning on December 26th, in all parishes in the Diocese of Hamilton, gatherings are permitted for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals for no more than ten people (including the priest), providing that all the current public health requirements are strictly observed.

Confirmations scheduled for January will likely need to be postponed until it is possible to gather in numbers larger than ten persons.