

CHANCERY OF THE CATHOLIC METROPOLITAN ARCHDIOCESE OF KUALA LUMPUR

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Chan/MC/13/2021

CHANCERY NOTICE

<u>Updated Protocols for the Period of Total Lockdown (FMCO)</u>

The Honourable Prime Minister, Tan Sri Dato Muhyiddin Yassin, had announced on Friday 28th of May 2021 that the entire country would be placed under "total lockdown" from the 1st to the 14th of June 2021 to curb the phenomenal increase of new COVID 19 infections which has placed an unbearable strain on our country's medical facilities and staff.

Due to the latest updated SOPs from MKN and the Ministry of National Unity (hereinafter collectively called the MKN SOPs), His Grace, Archbishop Julian Leow, in consultation with the Archdiocesan Crisis Management Task Force, has decided to update the following protocols in all parishes, churches, chapels and Mass centres in the Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur for the duration of the total lockdown:

- 1.0. **Suspension of all Public Masses** All in-person public Masses are to be suspended throughout the Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur. The clergy will continue to offer Masses privately for the intentions of the faithful.
- 2.0. Live streaming of Masses churches who have the capacity to live stream Masses in compliance with the MKN SOPs may continue to do so. The number of persons (priest, assisting ministers, media, volunteers etc) should not exceed 12 persons. These live streamed Masses are not to be opened to attendance by the public.
- 3.0. **Suspension of In-person Gatherings and Meetings** all in-persons gatherings and meetings in parishes, churches, chapels and Mass centres are to be suspended until further notice. Meetings may be held using online platforms.



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- 4.0. **Parish Office** all parish offices are to be closed and staff are requested to work from home.
- 5.0. **Funerals** all funeral parlours located within church compounds may remain open but are subject to the conditions set out in the MKN SOPs. There should not be any wake prayers or visits apart from immediate family members, which should not exceed 10 persons at any one time. Funeral Masses are permitted with a total number not exceeding 12 persons (which should include the priest, assisting ministers and family members).
- 6.0. **Weddings** all weddings within churches are to be postponed until further notice.

As our country undergoes another period of tribulation, let us never lose hope in the promise of our Lord who tells us, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

As the Church prepares to celebrate two great solemnities in the coming week, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) and the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and although it is painful that you are not able to be physically present at Mass to receive holy communion, we ask that you continue to unite yourself spiritually with the Sacred Heart of Jesus and with our Archbishop and priests as they offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the alleviation of this pandemic, the redemption of the world and the salvation of souls.

Rev Fr Michael Chua

Chancellor

Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur