



Diocese of Kamloops
BISHOP'S OFFICE

March 30, 2021

Dear Clergy, Religious and faithful of the Diocese of Kamloops,

I was very disappointed and saddened to receive the news yesterday, in regards to the variance allowing indoor religious gatherings and worship services between March 28 and May 13, being rescinded. I was very hopeful that our Parishes would be able to celebrate the Holy Triduum as a community, even in small numbers, but considering the drastic increase of positive cases of Covid-19, it is not surprising that we will not be able to go ahead as planned. Looking to the positive side, we are still blessed that outdoor worship services under the [current variance](#) may still continue.

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated outdoors with our priests at Holy Family at 10:00 am on Holy Thursday, April 1, 2021. This Mass will be available on livestream. Please keep our Priests in your prayer.

Please continue to check the diocesan and your local parish website for live-stream or outdoor Mass updates. Our churches will remain open for people to have private prayer as well as visits to the Blessed Sacrament. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also continue to be offered.

Thank you to all our priests, parish staff, volunteers and parishioners for continuing to follow the provincial guidelines that are in place to help prevent the spread of Covid-19, and for your tireless work and innovativeness to continue to provide Mass celebrations throughout the Diocese, as we are committed to the safety and well being of all those entrusted to our care. I am very grateful to you all.

Let us turn our sufferings into prayerful moments for those who have lost their lives during the COVID-19 pandemic, for those who have lost their loved one(s) and could not be there with them, for all those who risk themselves daily to have our basic needs met and for all of the people who provide those in need with the care and support they require in these unprecedented times. The pain, the darkness and the struggles of the Passion remind us of our own challenges this year, but remember, so too will the glorious Resurrection reflect the joy in our life and the light we still find in our world.

With prayer and Easter blessing,

✠ Joseph Phuong Nguyen
Bishop of Kamloops