

カトリック福岡司教区  
DIOCESE OF FUKUOKA

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Fukuoka, May 7, 2021

To all the faithful of the Diocese of Fukuoka

Dear brothers and sisters:

As you all know, the Japanese government has decided to extend the state of emergency due to COVID-19 in Fukuoka province until June 20. Fortunately, in the provinces of Kumamoto and Saga the number of contaminations is decreasing. Even in Fukuoka province there is a big difference between the cities of Fukuoka or Kita-Kyushu and other places in the province.

In the Diocese of Fukuoka, **we will follow the norms that we have been observing until now.** I remind you of them once more.

- 1. If a state of emergency (*Kinkyu jitai sengen*) is declared, the celebration of Mass with the attendance of the faithful will be suspended. The Mass will be broadcast online from the cathedral.**
- 2. As long as the state of emergency is not declared, we will continue with the celebration of Mass with the assistance of the faithful. I ask that you faithfully comply with the standards that have been given so far.**
- 3. If the government issues some special measures, without reaching the declaration of a state of emergency, to prevent the spread of contamination, we will continue the celebration of Mass with the attendance of the faithful. In this case, I recommend that elderly people and those who suffer from some type of chronic illness join in the prayer of the community from their own homes, although their participation in the Mass will not be prohibited. The obligation to attend Mass is dispensed during that time.**
- 4. If any special circumstance arises, I ask that you contact the secretariat of the diocese.**

Our Christian communities will once again suffer limitations in their activities. In any case, let us not stop doing what is possible to do, always adhering to current regulations.

I wholeheartedly implore the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. May the Lord bless you.



Josep M. Abella, cmf.

Bishop of Fukuoka Dioces