



# DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

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

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

2 April 2020

Dear Reverend Monsignor:

Dear Reverend Father:

## **Re: Cancellations & Changes of Dates During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Please note the following decisions which have been made by His Excellency Bishop Douglas Crosby, OMI, regarding scheduled events from April 2 until June 31, 2020:

### **Baptisms**

All scheduled celebrations for the Sacrament of Baptism are cancelled. Arrangements will be made at a later date to reschedule these celebrations.

### **Confirmations**

All scheduled celebrations for the Sacrament of Confirmation are cancelled. Arrangements will be made at a later date to reschedule these celebrations.

### **First Communions**

All scheduled First Communion celebrations after Easter are cancelled. Arrangements will be made at a later date to reschedule these celebrations.

### **Marriages**

All public weddings scheduled before June 30 are to be rescheduled for some time in the fall. Private weddings (limited to the priest/deacon, bride and groom and two witnesses) are permitted.

### **Funerals**

At this time, it is possible to celebrate only the Rite of Christian burial at the cemetery, provided that no more than ten people (including the priest/deacon) are present. It is important to observe this legal limitation lest the cemetery or funeral home be fined.

### **Mass for New Catholics**

The annual Mass for New Catholics (scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2020 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King) is cancelled.

### **The Serra Club Servers Awards**

The Altar Servers Awards, organized by the Halton & Hamilton Serra Clubs (scheduled for May 13, 2020 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King) is cancelled.

**Diocesan Priests' Retreats**

The Diocesan Priests' Retreats (scheduled for May 18-22, and May 25-29, 2020) are cancelled.

**Ordinations to the Permanent Diaconate**

The Permanent Diaconate Ordinations (scheduled for June 6, 2020) have been rescheduled. Permanent Diaconate Ordinations will take at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Friday, August 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

**Convocation for Priests - June 9-10, 2020 at Mount Mary**

The Convocation for Priests (scheduled for June 9-10, 2020 at Mount Mary Retreat Centre) is cancelled.

**Wedding Anniversary Mass**

The annual Wedding Anniversary Mass (scheduled for June 13, 2020 at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King) has been cancelled.

**Ordinations to the Priesthood**

The Ordinations to the Priesthood (scheduled for May 2, 2020) have been rescheduled. Priesthood ordinations will take place at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at 11 :00 a.m.

**The Annual Diocesan Golf Tournament**

The annual Diocesan Golf Tournament (scheduled for June 24, 2020) is cancelled.

**Marriage Preparation Courses**

All Diocesan Marriage Preparations Courses are cancelled until June 30, 2020. Parishes will be notified when courses will become available after that date.

***Please adjust your calendars accordingly.***

Let us continue to pray for one another and especially for those who are sick, and those who have died. May all of us whose lives have been disrupted continue to place our trust in the Providence of God.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch, PH, VG  
Chancellor