



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

## DIocese OF SAINT JOHN

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November 20, 2020

Dear priests and lay faithful of the Saint John Region,

We have just been advised by the Province of New Brunswick that we are moving to the orange level. In this level, a maximum of 50 persons can gather at Mass, and 25 persons for other physically distanced gatherings. Please note that masks/face coverings are mandatory for all activities.

Due to the late notice, we realize that this will cause some inconvenience especially for those who have pre-registered. It is possible, due to space limitations, that some of the faithful will not be able to attend Mass this weekend, and for the foreseeable future. Be assured that the dispensation from the Holy Obligation to attend Mass on Sunday is still in effect.

For parish priests and staff, travel in and out of those zones in the orange level is not permitted, except for medical reasons. Please consult the latest mandatory order for further information on regulations during this time.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our pastors, staff, pandemic protocol committees and volunteers for their continued dedication and hard work during these trying times. We are striving to do our best to keep everyone safe and healthy.

As faithful you are demonstrating great understanding and charity in this time of disruption. Your ability to maintain and foster the faith is a true testimony and witness to Christ's presence among us.

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Let us not forget that Christ remains King, God is in control. We entrust to Him all those who are ill and those on the front lines caring for them.

In Him,

✠ Christian Riesbeck, CC  
Bishop of Saint John