

To all the faithful of the Diocese

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Archbishop of Osaka

**On precautionary measures taken against the spread of the New Coronavirus Infection (Part 14th)**

+ Peace of the Lord

The Tokyo Olympic Games have started and the Japanese athletes are performing remarkably well every day in the heated competition, but at the same time, the New Coronavirus infection continues to spread unexpectedly. In accordance with this, the Osaka Diocese will take the following measures from August 2 to 31, 2021.

1. In OSAKA PREFECTURE, masses will be closed to the public (PUBLIC MASSES WILL BE CANCELLED) in accordance with the Part 11th guidelines/measures (dated April 23)
2. In Hyogo and Wakayama Prefectures, the Public Mass will continue in accordance with the Part 13th guidelines/Measures (June 18).

As the head of the diocese, it pains me greatly to make such a decision, especially for the faithful in Osaka Prefecture, but I realized that I have no choice but to do so in order to protect the health and lives of everyone. We ask for your understanding regarding this matter.

The spread of the new coronavirus infection is a time of trial and tribulation unseen in recent years. Let us overcome this ordeal together, and at the same time, let us discover the message of God behind this ordeal with the eyes of faith.

In prayer and thanksgiving.