

September 29, 2021

To all the Faithful of the Archdiocese of Osaka

Thomas Aquinas Maeda Cardinal Manyo

Archbishop of Osaka

Measures associated with the new coronavirus infection (Part 17th)

+ Peace of the Lord

It has been announced that the state of emergency declared by the government will be lifted on September 30. Osaka Prefecture has been under the declaration of a state of emergency since August 2, and Hyogo Prefecture since August 20, and the decision was made to cancel the public Masses in Osaka and Hyogo. It is with a heavy heart that I express my gratitude for your understanding and cooperation. I am sure that you have felt the message from God during the time when the Mass was not open to the public. Let us reflect on our faith in the Church community and walk together again.

In response to the lifting of the emergency declaration, the Archdiocese of Osaka will do the following

***The suspension of public Masses in Osaka and Hyogo Prefectures has been lifted. We will resume public Masses in accordance with the Part 13th Measure.**

Parish Priests are requested to make the final decision on the form of Mass according to their own circumstances.

The government is expecting a re-emergence of the infection during winter time. From now on, we will move forward to celebrate the birth of Christ. Prayer and self-restraint on the part of each of us will help us prepare. Let us focus on infection control and prepare ourselves together to have a good Advent Season.

In thanksgiving and prayer.