

## 宗教法人 カトリック札幌司教区

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To the Catholic Faithful living or visiting in Hokkaido.

I hope and pray you are enjoying good health.

As you are aware the spread of the Corona Virus has begun to disrupt our lives even here in Hokkaido. Wishing to err on the side of caution, in conversation with my consultants I have decided to ask the parishes in Hokkaido Diocese to refrain from having liturgical services for the next two weeks, February 27 (Thursday) to March 14 (Saturday). I would also ask that even Masses with few participants be included in this directive.

This is probably the first time that most if not all of us have had to experience something like this. Let us continue to pray for those who have become ill with this virus, and ask Our Blessed Mother to intercede for all of us during this time.

If you have any questions or would like more clarification please do not hesitate to call your parish or your pastor.

Asking God's Blessings on you and your families, especially at this time.

Bernard Tajji Katsuya  
Bishop of Sapporo Diocewse