



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF TIKOLOHO E KATHOLIKE EA ISIFUNDABHISHOBHI SASE

JOHANNESBURG

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Dear Monsignor / Rev. Father / Rev. Deacon / Rev. Religious Superior / People of God

President Cyril Ramaphosa, the President of the Republic, in his address to the nation on the 12 September 2021 moved the country to adjusted level two (2) from Monday, 13 September 2021.

We are thankful for the lifting of the restrictions which will be reviewed in two weeks' time depending on the state of the pandemic. There is now a limit of 250 people indoors, as well as 500 people outdoors. However, FUNERALS are still restricted to 50 people only and night vigils are not allowed.

I, hereby, convey to you the following:

- It is permissible for sodalities and parish groups to meet for retreats and meetings, while adhering to all the covid-19 regulations. The leaders of the various groups must ensure that all safety measures are followed in line with the parish priest, PPC and local parish covid-19 team's guidelines.
- The wearing of a face mask remains a requirement at all times.
- The need to provide for hand sanitising and premises cleaning remains. Kindly note that government guidance continues to remind us that increased frequency of cleaning of general room surfaces reduces the presence of the virus and the risk of contact transmission.
- The reception of HOLY COMMUNION at this stage continue to be distributed in the hands until further notice.
- COMMUNION TO THE SICK and to the house bound, including hospital visits is permissible. I appeal that while ministering to the sick all prudence is to be observed to safeguard the health of every participant, including the priest's own health.
- All other SACRAMENTS can be performed, following current public health norms regarding social distancing and hygiene practices.

Mindful that the pandemic is still in our midst, we should pray for its end and exercise reasonable care to do whatever we can to bring that end about in our communities. Thank you for the ministry you render in the Archdiocese.

Given this **17th day of September 2021** in the Archdiocese of Johannesburg, DURING THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH.

May St. Joseph protector of the Church and Mary Mother of the afflicted, pray for us.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+ The Most Reverend Buti Tihagale OMI
Catholic Archbishop of Johannesburg



C.C. The Very Reverend Father Paul Beukes OMI

Vicar General