



THE ARCHBISHOP OF KUCHING

ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA, LEVEL 1, A.C.C.P.C.
JALAN TUN ABANG HAJI OPENG, 93000 KUCHING
P. O. Box 940, 93718 KUCHING, SARAWAK, MALAYSIA

SUSPENSION OF MASSES FOR CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN RED ZONE DURING CMCO 13th- 26th January 2021

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ and friends of goodwill,

With the alarming increase of COVID-19 cases throughout Sarawak and with Kuching, Sibuan and Miri becoming Red Zones, SDMC has declared CMCO from 13th- 26th January 2021. This 14-day CMCO period is aimed at breaking the chain of infection. Minimising points of contact from social interactions, large gatherings and inter-district travels will allow time and crucial resources to be focussed on current Contact Tracing and Active Case Detection. Accordingly, the following apply to all Catholic Churches in the Archdiocese of Kuching:

1. **Suspension of Masses and Services in Catholic Churches within RED ZONE** for Parishes in Kuching, Kota Sentosa and Kota Padawan until 26th January 2021.
2. **Join Live-stream Masses:** <https://www.facebook.com/arch.kuching/>
3. Catholic Parishes that are NOT in RED ZONE - Bau, Lundu, Serian, Bunan, Tebedu, Sri Aman, Betong and Saratok, may remain open. Be vigilant and ensure strict compliance to established SOP for churches by UNIFOR and SDMC.
4. Parish Offices will remain open to serve our parishioners.
5. Reduce or minimise all non-essential trips or visits as every point of contact create an opening for potential COVID-19 infection.

I exhort everyone to adhere strictly to our SOP/guidelines for the safety and well-being of all as part of our Christian and social responsibility to love God and neighbour, together with friends of various faiths.

- ✓ **Cut down unnecessary trips**
- ✓ **Minimise social gatherings**
- ✓ **Wear face mask in public**
- ✓ **Maintain social distancing – 2 meters where possible**
- ✓ **Practise proper washing of hands**
- ✓ **Bring own hand sanitiser and surface disinfectant**
- ✓ **Donate to CWS / charity to alleviate suffering**
- ✓ **Pray & intercede for our nation and the world**

Some Guidelines from SGH COVID-19 Response Team

1. Should I get tested for COVID-19?
2. Know who you are in COVID-19 chain
3. Play your role and make a difference

<https://www.todaycatholic.com.my/2021/01/covid-19-what-you-can-do-to-stay-safe/>

May God bless and protect all families with good health and peace.
Wishing everyone a Blessed New Year 2021.

✠ *Archbishop Simon Poh*
Archdiocese of Kuching
12th January 2021