



STATEMENT REGARDING COVID-19 (Coronavirus) UPDATE #4 - Funerals

March 30, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Office of the Premier, Doug Ford issued a new emergency order as follows on Saturday, March 28, 2020:

“Based on the best advice of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Ontario government has issued a new emergency order under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to prohibit organized public events and social gatherings of more than five (5) people, effective immediately.

Funerals would be permitted to proceed with up to 10 people at one time.”

Accordingly, I am issuing this directive for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough effective March 30, 2020:

There will be no funerals in churches at this time, only graveside committals. The limit for attendees imposed by the government must be strictly observed. Families are encouraged to consider having a Memorial Mass sometime after the pandemic has ended.

Losing a loved one is a deep sorrow and I encourage grieving families to pray for the loving consolation of God and the strength that comes through our faith.

Yours in Christ,

†Most Reverend Daniel J. Miehm
Bishop of Peterborough