



THE ARCHBISHOP OF KUCHING

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Suspension of Masses in Catholic Churches CMCO 18th - 31st January 2021

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ and friends of goodwill,

From recent SDMC daily reports, we can see widespread COVID-19 cases in many new places throughout Sarawak. At these initial days when positive cases are just starting to surface, this is the crucial window period for contact tracing to isolate positive cases and to break the cycle of infection. SDMC has prudently expanded CMCO to restrict travel between Divisions with the purpose of curbing further outbreaks.

With the implementation of MCO in Sibu and CMCO in all other Divisions in Sarawak from Monday 18th Jan - Sunday 31st Jan 2020, I would like to announce that **all Masses and services in Churches throughout the Archdiocese and houses of worship in Sarawak will be suspended until 31st January 2021.** Catholics may continue to join the on-line Masses at: <https://www.facebook.com/arch.kuching/>

On both personal and communal levels, I exhort Catholics, Christians and followers of all faiths to come together to contain this new wave of COVID19 in Sarawak:

- ☑ Respect CMCO inter-district travel restriction.
- ☑ Cut down unnecessary trips
- ☑ Comply with current safety SOP
- ☑ Wear Mask when in public
- ☑ Maintain social distance –2 meters if possible
- ☑ Do not organise any social gathering

18th - 25th January 2021 has also been dedicated as a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit." (John15-5-9). Let us pray for Sarawak, Malaysia and the whole World.

May God bless and protect all families with good health and peace.

✠ *Archbishop Simon Poh*
Archdiocese of Kuching
17th January 2021