## "Lockdown": Keeping our 10 person capacity 14 January 2021

Thank you – our wonderful parishioners of Merciful Redeemer parish – for your ongoing support during this wretched pandemic. We didn't get the Christmas we had hoped for, but nonetheless, the Lord is with us! It is wonderful to see as many of you as we have time and space for at Communion Services over Christmas and over the last weekends, since the further restrictions of November.

As you know, those restrictions have been extended and intensified. The number of new COVID-19 cases in the GTA continues to threaten overwhelming the health care system, and shows no sign of

For this reason, as of Monday 23 November, we have had to restrict attendance inside the church to 10 people, including priests hearing Confessions or a staff members/ volunteers to monitor capacity restrictions. **Sadly, due to these measures, public Masses have been temporarily cancelled**. Priests will continue to celebrate daily Mass privately for your intentions.

We will continue to offer Communion Services with 8 people MAXIMUM PER SCHEDULED SERVICE at the following times:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. – 8:50 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. – 1:50 p.m.

Sunday: 5:00 p.m. – 7:50 p.m.

If you sign up, please ensure that you are on-time, and wait outside until the usher invites you in. Do not come (cancel your registration) if you have any flulike symptoms or are/should be under some quarantine measures. For more information or to register, please visit:

## https://mercifulredeemer.org/communionservice

While I recognize it is not a substitute for attending Mass in person, I encourage you to join us online for livestreamed Mass. Livestreamed Mass will be celebrated:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 12:15 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

(Sunday Vigil) 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

You may view the Mass livestreamed from Merciful Redeemer at: www.youtube.com/results?search\_query=merciful+redeemer+mississauga

Our church will remain open for private prayer:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Confessions will be heard at the regularly scheduled times of:

Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Confessions may be scheduled individually with any of the priests by email or phone.

Weddings, funerals and baptisms continue to be restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved (priest, cantor, etc.).

## The Adoration Chapel will remain closed until further notice.

All non-essential meetings in the parish have been moved to virtual meetings or they may be postponed. Our staff will also be working remotely in large part wherever possible.

We recognize these measures are extremely challenging. I am also so incredibly grateful for the efforts of our heroic volunteers who have been faithfully welcoming parishioners and cleaning the church between services, ensuring that we can operate safely and responsibly. Your selflessness and generosity are inspiring!

So many of the faithful rely on the reception of the Sacraments and our churches to find solace, peace and support during this period of pandemic. Despite these new restrictions, we will make every effort to continue our outreach to you. We also ask that you find opportunities to assist those who are vulnerable or alone among us.

We will continue to update you as the situation evolves. *Please check our website for details, as we will be making announcements that way also.* 

We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy. May God continue to bless you now and always!