



THE CATHEDRAL

OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

TO: PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

Tuesday March 17th 2020

**RE: POSTPONEMENT OF ALL WORSHIP SERVICES
AND UPDATE ON FUNERAL OF VINCENT COLISTRO**

My dear parishioners of St. John's Cathedral,

POSTPONEMENT OF ALL WORSHIP SERVICES

Following the decision of Anglican Bishops from Dioceses across Canada and many other denominations in response to the evolving COVID-19 virus and public gatherings, Bishop Harper has made the decision to **postpone all public worship in every parish of the Diocese of Saskatoon**. This is effective immediately and will be in place until further notice. Also suspended at this time is the gathering of all groups, organizations and guilds that meet publicly. On-line meetings by Skype or Zoom are very much encouraged for our Cathedral organizations in the meantime.

Bishop Harper is planning to launch live-streaming worship from the Cathedral in due course and is hoping to provide on-line worship material, Bible readings and prayers that correspond to our Sunday lectionary. It is uncertain as to how long this postponement will be in effect. Bishop Harper is in constant contact with the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupertsland and is keeping me informed of updates in these uncertain times, which I will pass on to all of you. The plan at present is to re-evaluate the situation by March 31st and decide if the cessation of public worship will continue.

UPDATE ON FUNERAL OF VINCENT COLISTRO:

Given the news shared above and with health officials urging public gatherings not to be more than fifty people, **the Funeral Service for Vincent Colistro is no longer a public service**. Instead, it will be **a private service for family only** and a few invited family friends. At a later date, still to be determined, a public Memorial Service will be planned for Vincent when Cathedral parishioners will be welcome to attend. In the meantime, I ask that you kindly respect the family's wishes and the situation they have been placed in given the extraordinary circumstances presented to us concerning public gatherings. Thank you for keeping them all in your prayers as they gather on Saturday for the service.

I will update you with further information as I receive it. I trust and hope that we shall get through these uncertain days together with our love and care for one another and the knowledge that God is with us throughout it all.

Wishing you safety, protection, good health and God's blessings,
Scott
The Very Rev. Scott Pittendrigh
Rector and Dean

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