

**The 22nd LETTER OF THE BISHOP ON THE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES
FOR PREVENTING THE COVID 19 INFECTIONS**

The Right Reverend Mario Yamanouchi, Bishop of Saitama
February 24th, 2022

Although the Priority Measures (Quasi-State of Emergency Measures) for Preventing the Covid 19 Infections have not been lifted until March 6th, after careful considerations on the current situation, we, The Diocese of Saitama, have decided as follows:

The Sunday masses with the congregation will be allowed to resume on Sunday, March 6th (The First Sunday of Lent).

In case there are any difficulties to resume the Sunday masses on March 6th, due to the parochial circumstances, let us know, please.

Continually, the faithful of Saitama Diocese will be dispensed from their obligation to attend Sunday masses.

Regarding the Ash Wednesday Mass, you will be allowed to celebrate with the congregation by carefully avoiding the congestions of the people.

We have asked each Parish priest to consider giving ashes onto those wish to receive ashes outside Ash Wednesday. For the details, you may ask your Parish priest, please.

Thank you very much for your understanding and kind cooperation.