



# Our Lady of the Airways Parish

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## COVID-19 PROVINCIAL MEASURES MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The People of Our Lady of the Airways Parish

**FROM:** Father Thomas and the Pastoral Team

**DATE:** November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Provincial Restrictions effective Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>

- Parish Update - Peel Region “Lockdown”
- “Virtual” Advent at Home

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***“Be strong, fear not! Here is your God.  
He comes with vindication, with divine recompense.  
He comes to save you.” - Isaiah 35:4***

We want to thank all the parishioners of Our Lady of the Airways for their ongoing support during this period of great uncertainty. It has been wonderful to see so many of you at Mass since we re-opened in June.

As you know, last Friday Premier Ford imposed emergency lockdown restrictions for the regions of Toronto and Peel. Beginning Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, churches can only have a maximum of 10 people within it at any given time. Due to these measures, Cardinal Collins has instructed that **ALL PUBLIC MASSES WITHIN OUR REGION BE TEMPORARILY CANCELLED.** Priests will continue to celebrate private Mass daily for the intentions of parishioners and for those suffering from Covid-19. While we recognize it is not a substitute for attending Mass in person, we encourage you to view online/televised Masses. A full list is available at the Archdiocesan website at [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org).

During this past week, Malton has had one of the highest positivity rates of Covid-19 in Ontario. After much reflection and considering this somber fact, we have decided to keep **OUR CHURCH CLOSED DURING THIS LOCKDOWN.** Unfortunately, it is not possible for our parish to remain open at this time in a way that is safe and able to control the restricted number of people permitted in the building. Weddings, funerals and baptisms (without Mass) will continue to take place, with the restriction of 10 persons maximum. Confessions will continue to be available by appointment only.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who have helped to make our church a safe place to gather - they have done an incredible job! We also want to thank all of you for your continued financial support of the parish. Many parishioners have been dropping off their envelopes into the collection baskets at the exit doors. Those, who have been unable to come to Mass, have also been dropping their envelopes in the mailbox by the parish office door, or in some cases, mailing it to the parish. A sincere thank you to each of you!

There are two additional ways that you can still use to help our parish:

- 1) on-line giving with your credit card through the Donate Now link found at our parish website,
- 2) through the use of the Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) Programme, which we are still accepting PAG registration forms.

The **PARISH OFFICE REMAINS CLOSED** at this time. All meetings and confessions are by appointments only. Please leave a message on our answering machine or send us an email. We will get back to you as soon as we can.

### **OLA “VIRTUAL” ADVENT AT HOME**

*We have a number of things planned over the next month...*

#### **PARISH UPDATES**

We will be sending you parish updates during this lockdown period and as the situation evolves.

#### **VIRTUAL ROSARY** via Zoom Video & Audio Conferencing

- All are welcome to join us Wednesday evenings during Advent for a virtual gathering of prayer and reflection with Fr. Thomas.
  - Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> (7:00pm-8:30pm)
- Every Wednesday you will receive an email with both the required Zoom link and meeting ID number.
- We will also provide a phone number for those who do not have access to a computer and wish to join us by telephone.

#### **GOSPEL REFLECTIONS**

- We will be sending out weekly Gospel reflections from Fr. Thomas.
- As well as video messages and photos as we prepare the church for Advent and Christmas.

Please help us by sending these updates to others within our parish community.

We recognize these measures are extremely challenging. Remember that we are in this together, and we can only get through this when everyone does their part and makes the necessary sacrifices required. Despite these new restrictions, we will make every effort to continue our outreach to you. Please find opportunities to assist those who are vulnerable or alone among us. Be assured of our prayers for you and your loved ones.

May God keep you safe and bless you always!



Rev. Thomas Lim  
Pastor



Rev. Canisius Raj  
Associate Pastor



Enza Lamberti  
Pastoral Associate