

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) updated information for each diocese of the NSKK
As at 3 April 2020

Diocese	Action	Restriction period, etc.	Notes
Hokkaido	No general suspension of worship	Attendance at worship not recommended (extended until end of May) Clergy will perform worship at the appointed time at their churches	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols All gatherings/meetings other than Sunday worship are cancelled until further notice Holy Thursday worship will take place at the Cathedral Good Friday services will be held at each individual church Easter Day worship will be held at various times so great numbers do not gather together After-worship party is cancelled Diocesan combined service (16/5) is cancelled; clergy gathering (14-16/5) will take place as scheduled Clergy will consider offering pastoral Sunday worship at people's homes
Tohoku	Suspension of worship	29/3 - 3/5 - Suspension of public worship Clergy will perform worship at the appointed time at their churches Funerals will take place with sufficient infection prevention measures taken	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Diocesan office working hours are shortenend (until further notice) Scheduled meetings and events are to be postponed, or carried out by E-mail or video-conference
Kita-Kanto	Partial suspension of worship	Churches in Saitama Deanery are currently suspending public worship (from 5/4) and also gatherings Churches in Ibaraki, Tochigi and Gunma Deaneries will resume public worship from 5/4, however the current situation in each church and community will be discussed by each church prior to restarting services As a result of this, if worship is deemed that it should continue to be suspended, this shall be reported to the diocesan bishop	Inform congregations about thorough heath management and hygiene protocols Gatherings in general are suspended; in particular those including food and drink, ie: concerts, etc., or when many people are to be in close contact with each other Necessary gatherings and meetings for parochial operation (including various committees) may be conducted after sufficient infection prevention measures are taken Funerals and weddings are permitted after sufficient preventative measures are taken
Tokyo	Suspension of worship	Continuing suspension of all Sunday public worship Funerals will take place with sufficient infection prevention measures taken	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Videos of services and liturgies made available online Committees/workshops and meetings are requested to not meet Church doors to be kept open, so people can enter Any case of infection confirmed, is to be reported to the diocesan secretary, and that person self-isolated Diocesan office hours (Monday to Friday excluding holidays) to be shortened to 10:30-12:30, 13:30-15:00
Yokohama	Partial suspension of worship	Churches in Kanagawa and Eastern and Northern Chiba prefecture (excluding Mobara) will continue the suspension of all Sunday public worship Other areas (4 churches in Chiba, Mobara, Shizuoka Prefecture, and Yamanashi Prefecture) will resume public worship from Sunday 5/4 Weekday worship and gatherings are permitted with very small groups	Inform congregations about thorough heath management and hygiene protocols Communion will continue to be offered privately at the cathedral every Sunday at 11:00, except those days when the bishop is visiting other churches; then it will be offered at the church's regular time. The Sacrament of Holy Chrism will be offered by the Bishop and two other clergy on Holy Thursday at 10:30 Diocesan guidelines for the Novel Coronavirus and public worship have been distributed to the laity Diocesan Office working hours are currently shortened (6/4-17/4 11:00-16:00, closed on Good Friday)

Chubu	Partial suspension of worship	Each church will decide for themselves what action to take St. Matthew's Church, Nagoya: Excepting services during Holy Week and Monday in Easter week, all services are suspended until Saturday in Easter week St. Stephen's Church, Nagoya: worship suspended on 5/4 Holy Trinity Church, Kani: Worship suspended on 5/4 St. Luke's Church, Aichi: Laiety will lead the service on 5/4 Church of the Holy Light, Ichinomiya: worship will resume from 5/4	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Communion given only in one kind (bread)
Kyoto	No general suspension of worship	Each church will decide for themselves what action to take Some churches have suspended worship	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Childrens' Festival (co-hosted with Osaka diocese) is cancelled. Other meetings also cancelled
Osaka	Partial suspension of worship	Public Sunday worship suspended until 3/5 Diocesan ordination scheduled for 9/4 is postponed until Wednesday, May 20 at 11:00. The commemoration ceremony of Holy Communion on the same day is cancelled. Good Friday (10/4) Diocesan worship is cancelled	If worship must take place... Those who feel unwell should not attend; also the elderly or those with underlying conditions. Those not displaying symptoms should also take care when attending worship so as not to spread the infection. Celebrants must thoroughly wash hands before worship and communion. Any deacons or servers present likewise People should be seated with adequate distance between themselves: if possible also by increasing the distance between the front and back of the seats or by increasing the seating area All attending worship should wear masks Omission of hymns and chants Priests should not celebrate or preach if they have a cold, fever or cough Before, during and after worship, chapel windows should be opened as much as possible and adequate ventilation given Congregational responses should be made by an appointed person using a microphone, not by loud voices Alcohol disinfectant should be made available at the entrance to the church and and hall Meals and parties post-worship continue to be cancelled Unnecessary gatherings are to be avoided: and for those times when they cannot be, special care must be taken with: ventilation; crowding and infection risk
Kobe	Partial suspension of worship	Suspension of all public worship in Kobe, Akashi & Himeji cities until the end of April Worship on Sunday and other feast days/weekdays is limited to clergy and their families Other areas dependant upon individual church's decision	Inform congregations of thorough health management and hygiene protocols In restricted areas, services to be offered as far as the ministry of the Word; sermons and liturgies to be available for distribution Believers visiting churches to pray, having clergy pastoral visits to homes is acceptable Liturgies for 'Prayer at home' are being prepared by the diocese Pastoral care to be offered to all Diocesan Office working hours are shortened (1/4-1/5 10:00-15:00)

Kyushu	Partial suspension of worship	Each church will decide for themselves what action to take Attendance at Sunday worship is not recommended (especially for those who are ill or use public transport)	Distribution of the fourth letter to congregations and clergy Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols (about protecting oneself and not spreading infection) Sunday worship during April at churches in Fukuoka Prefecture will be considered, but also cancellation of public worship Worship and gatherings are suspended at Kikuchi Reimei Church throughout April
Okinawa	Partial suspension of worship	Each church will decide for themselves what action to take Public worship at All Souls' Church, Chatan, is suspended during Holy Week and Easter Sunday	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols All diocesan events in March are cancelled Diocesan ordination scheduled for 25/4 is postponed

General Application

Holy Communion to be given in only one kind (bread), or by priestly intinction; sharing of the Peace to be done without bodily contact

Kindergartens and nursery schools run by the church are closed; meetings and events cancelled or postponed; related schools and facilities to stop graduation ceremonies and scale-down events

Provincial Office

Shortened working hours to be extended until 1 May (10:00-17:00)