

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) updated information for each diocese of the NSKK

As at 26 June 2020

Diocese	Action	Restriction period, etc.	Notes
Hokkaido	No general suspension of communal worship	Attendance at worship not recommended if difficult (extended until end of June) Clergy will perform worship at the appointed time at their churches	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Small gatherings are permitted at individual churches, with sufficient precautionary measures taken Each church's individual judgments are to be respected, made after consultation with the bishop Diocesan ordination (5/16) has been postponed; 'Fellowship and Exchange Day' (6/28) is cancelled Clergy will consider offering pastoral Sunday worship at people's homes
Tohoku	Resumption of communal worship	Communal Sunday worship, etc. resumed from 7 June Funerals can take place with sufficient precautionary measures taken	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols based upon 'Guidelines for Sunday Worship and Resumption of Parish Missionary Activities' issued on 28 May If there is a very small number of infected people in the neighboring municipalities and worship is to be suspended (wearing masks still posing a risk) according to the guidelines, consultation shall be made with parish council and bishop. Donations will be received when worship resumes Diocesan office working hours returned to normal (9:00-17:00) from 7 June Scheduled meetings to be considered to be postponed, or carried out by E-mail or video-conference, or preventative measures taken if meeting in person
Kita-Kanto	Resumption of communal worship	All churches resumed communal worship from 7 June Consideration will be made, however, of the changing situation of each local church community, and necessary measures taken	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols during worship. If continued suspension is thought necessary for any church, consultation to be made with the bishop Meetings in general continue to be suspended, but gatherings and meetings necessary for parochial operation (including various committees) may be conducted after sufficient precautionary measures are taken
Tokyo	Communal worship to resume sequentially	11 items and systems according to the Bishop's guidelines, are to be provided by each church Any church which meets preparation requirements can resume communal worship from 1 July Setting of resumption of worship date and details relating to that worship and any restrictions will vary depending on each situation The bishop permits temporary use of service of the Word Until further notice diocesan requiem services will be closed to the public and performed by bishop and clergy of the Cathedral Funerals will take place with sufficient precautionary measures taken Online distribution of cathedral worship and liturgy will continue throughout at least July	Meetings and gatherings other than worship including where online meetings are possible alternatives, with or without food and drink are to continue to be refrained from holding Congregants are requested to not attend worship or physical meetings other than at the church they belong to. If attendance at worship is unavoidable, please contact the church by noon the day before to obtain permission Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Church doors to be kept open, so people can enter Any case of infection confirmed, is to be reported to the diocesan secretary; in the case of clergy infection, the church will immediately suspend all activities to prevent the spread of infection and closes for disinfection Diocesan office reduced hours will end on 30 June; returning to regular working hours (Monday-Friday 9:30-12:30, 13:30-17:30)
Yokohama	Resumption of communal worship	Sunday communal worship restarted on 7 June, with limited numbers of congregation Weekday worship and church meetings restarted on 23 May Unless unavoidable, please refrain from attending worship services at other churches or dioceses until further notice	Guidelines for worship have been revised to reflect resumption of Sunday services Continue to thoroughly implement precautionary measures in accordance with the worship guidelines Communal meals are still suspended Diocesan Office working hours returned to normal from June (Monday-Friday 10:00-17:00)

Chubu	Resumption of communal worship	Sunday and weekday communal worship resumption after 1 June will be decided by each church based on the "Guidelines for Resuming Worship" distributed	Revised diocesan policy and "Guidelines for Resuming Worship" were issued on 31 May 31 Meetings, gatherings, events (including prayer services), etc. will resume in stages (email or web conference still recommended) Diocesan Office working hours to return to normal from June (Monday to Friday 9:00 to 17:00)
Kyoto	No general suspension of communal worship	Each church will decide for themselves what action to take Most churches have resumed communal worship	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Regularly share the situation at each church Many events and meetings are cancelled or postponed Diocesan regular office hours resumed from 1 June (9am to 5pm)
Osaka	Resumption of communal worship	Restrictions on communal worship being relaxed gradually from 7 June. Currently only Sunday worship resuming	Each church will decide regarding the resumption of Sunday service. Precautions to be taken when resuming Church committees to resume, other meetings and events remain suspended Diocesan office hours return to usual (weekdays 10:30 am to 6:30 pm)
Kobe	Resumption of communal worship	Following discussion at local level, almost all diocesan churches have now resumed communal worship (from June)	New guidelines for resumption of public worship have been issued by the bishop to all churches Online service for Pentecost Sunday and clergy Easter messages have been uploaded to diocesan homepage Questionnaire issued to understand the status of worship in each church Diocesan Office working hours are shortened (10:00-16:00) until further notice
Kyushu	Resumption of communal worship	Attendance at Sunday worship is not recommended for those who are ill or have to use public transport	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols (about protecting oneself) All suspended churches have resumed communal worship (excepting Kikuchi Reimei Church) The ability to hold Web-based meetings for parish committees has been established Diocesan office will operate regular office hours from June, with precautionary measures being taken
Okinawa	Resumption of communal worship	Communal worship resumed from May 21 (Ascension Day); and at St. Peter & St. Paul's church, Mihara on 7 June Church of the Prairie House in Airakuen and St. Michael's Church, Minami Shizuen remain suspended until central government measures are relaxed	Inform congregations about thorough health management and hygiene protocols Diocesan ordination scheduled for 25/4 is postponed until 19 September Diocesan office working hours return to usual from 21 May Clergy gatherings and committee meetings can be held from July in person Lending of halls to resume from July

Provincial Office

Working hours returned to regular office hours from 1 June. (Weekdays 9:30-17:30). This may change again dependent upon the future situation