



# Simla Chandigarh Diocese

Bishop's House, P.O. Box No: 709, Sector 19-A Chandigarh - 160 019, INDIA.

**† Ignatius L. Mascarenhas**

Bishop of Simla-Chandigarh

Ref. DSC/Cir. 014/2020

TEL: 0172-2775777, 2773777

FAX: 0172-2781630

EMAIL: bpignatius@gmail.com

23.06.2020

## UPDATE ON CIRCULAR - CORONA VIRUS-11 (Sacraments/ Sacramentals )

Dear Fathers,

Greetings.

Considering the present situation due to corona virus, the following guidelines are issued to celebrate sacraments/sacramentals during Covid -19 situation. Please do follow them strictly.

### Celebration of Marriage

1. The following documents are required :

- i) Pre-nuptial enquiry (in person or online).
  - ii) Baptism certificate.
  - iii) Confirmation certificate.
  - iv) Letter of parish priests of bride and bridegroom ascertaining the free state of spouses.
  - v) Certificate of pre-marital course (As long as the corona situation lasts, this course is suspended. Spouses give a written assurance that after marriage, when the situation becomes normal, they will attend the course. A security deposit of Rs 1000/- per partner is to be collected and kept with the parish priest. When the course is done, the money is refunded otherwise it is forwarded to the Family Commission.)
  - vi) Dispensation from impediment from the bishop where this is applicable (on line suffices for the time being. Hard copy is to be produced later.)
  - vii) In case of disparity of cult and mixed marriage the conditions to be fulfilled.
  - viii) Letter stating that banns are published and no impediment is discovered (suffice to publish banns through whatsapp groups of the parish).
2. All government's precautions like wearing mask, sanitizing hands, keeping bodily distance are to be strictly followed.
  3. Only the permitted number of persons is allowed (not more than 50 or as per state regulations).
  4. There will not be any mass. The celebration of marriage ceremony is to be kept short. Communion service is permitted.
  5. No singing is allowed.
  6. Only one photographer and one videographer are allowed.
  7. After the marriage please avoid going for the party.

### Celebration of Baptism

- i) Instructions are done on line.
- ii) Only 10 family members are allowed.
- iii) The use of mask, sanitization and physical distance are to be maintained.
- iv) No photography and video graph is to be allowed