



ARCHDIOCESE OF KINGSTON  
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

**FAX Transmission**

TO: Pastors and Administrators AT FAX: various  
FROM: † Brendan M. O'Brien *BMO*  
Archbishop of Kingston  
RE: **H1N1 Swine Influenza Precautions**  
DATE: 23 October 2009 # of Pages: 1 (including this sheet)

Dear Monsignor/Father:

This coming weekend, 24-25 October, I ask that you read at each Mass – or publish in your bulletin – the following message:

According to an Update issued by the Kingston-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington Health Unit, the past week has produced an alarmingly sharp upward trend across the region in emergency department visits and hospital admissions for influenza, fever, and pneumonia. As well, schools are reporting very high rates of absenteeism. Those who have been tested have almost all tested positive for the H1N1 virus.

In my memorandum of 30 September 2009, I indicated that, if the situation became more acute, I would be amending the liturgical directives issued on that date. Clearly, the time for increased precautions has now arrived. Therefore, **I am directing that the following additional measures be implemented immediately:**

- **Communion from the Chalice for the faithful is to be suspended.**
- **The Faithful are to receive the Body of Christ in the hand, not on the tongue.**

We, as a Church, are a gathering place for large groups of people, and, therefore, we have an obligation to ensure that we do everything possible to reduce the likelihood of spreading the virus.