

March 19, 2020 – Presiding Bishop’s Update

The County of Los Angeles and the State of California have enacted an “order”, referred to as “Safer at Home”, in hopes of stemming the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Los Angeles County has ordered the closure of all malls, shopping centers, playgrounds and nonessential retail businesses in its latest attempt to stem the spread of the new coronavirus.

The public health order, which went into effect at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, also prohibits all indoor and outdoor public and private gatherings within a confined space of 10 or more people.

In summary:

- No gatherings, public or private, of more than 10 people. If gathered, must maintain a distance of 6 feet apart.
- Closure of all indoor malls.
- Closure of all public parks and beaches.
- No dining in at restaurants – only orders for delivery or take out.
- May travel to check on family members, shopping for essentials, work, medical and other essentials.
- Grocery stores (and other food stores), hospitals, doctors’ offices, religious facilities assisting with community needs, hardware stores, utility companies, communications companies, hardware stores, banks, and outdoor malls will remain open.
- The order remains in effect through April 19, 2020.

The State of Oregon has a gathering restriction of not more than 25. The State of Washington State has a gathering restriction of 10 or less.

We will get through this because God is our “refuge and strength”; therefore, I encourage all in California to respect the order as passed down from the governor, mayor, and county supervisors. Many other areas may have restrictions and we will inform you as we are made aware.

Office of the Presiding Bishop