**EDOT Guidance on Ministering to the Sick and Dying and to their Families when it’s Unwise or Impossible to be Present**

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During Phase I and Phase II (shelter in place, strict social distancing, initial stages of reopening), clergy and lay ministers should minister using video conference or phone contact.

* Ministry to the Sick, At the Time of Death (BCP) may be conducted by a priest, deacon, or lay person by phone or video, or by a family member present with the person.
* Reconciliation of a Penitent (BCP) may be offered by a priest, or when necessary, by a deacon or lay person, by phone or video.
* Regular pastoral conversations with the sick and their family members by phone or video ahead of extreme illness onset will increase the ease at which liturgies can be offered when the need arises.
* In the event of the need for Ministry at the Time of Death, it’s highly recommended to include family members or friends who cannot be physically present on the phone or video conference.