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Patriarchate of Georgia – Coronavirus-related issues to be discussed at Holy Synod meeting today



On Friday, March 20 at noon, the Holy Synod will hold a meeting to discuss issues related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

On Thursday, on the website of the Patriarchate of Georgia, a statement was published, urging the Georgian society to wait for the official announcements from the Holy Synod.

“Because of the coronavirus epidemic, in the practice of receiving the Eucharist, and in general in the practice of being ecclesiastical, a difference of opinion has been detected even within the Church. We urge everyone to keep from forming personal opinions and wait for the Holy Synod meeting which will be held on Friday, March 20,” reads the statement of the Patriarchate.

One of the recommendations of specialists to prevent the further spread of coronavirus was addressed to the Church, asking them to not use the same vessel for everyone during Mass.

Andria Jaghmaidze, Head of Public Relations Department of the Patriarchate, told InterPressNews about it.

“The session will generally discuss the situation regarding the virus outbreak,” said Andria Jaghmaidze, who did not specify whether the church will make any decisions, including on the rite of Holy Communion [which is performed using a “common cup” to share wine among the congregation].

The latest updates claim that Georgia has a total of 43 coronavirus cases, while 1925 people are in quarantine.