



REVEREND DANIEL B. CARSON

VICAR GENERAL AND MODERATOR OF THE CURIA

Dear Brother Priest,

I write today to share with you Archbishop Gregory's Message of Hope, linked [here](#) and to provide you updates. Please share the Archbishop's message with your community. I will continue to update you as we navigate this challenging time.

Pastoral Ministry to the Faithful

Providing effective pastoral ministry to our people in these weeks takes a renewed evangelical creativity and utilization of technological resources. To assist you in your pastoral outreach, we have developed a Top 10 Pastoral Ministry Suggestions for Clergy and Parish Staff document linked [here](#). We encourage you to review these ideas in prayer and to share them with your parish staff and other parish ministry leaders.

For questions about implementation of these suggestions, please contact any of the following staff in our Secretariat for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns who are ready to assist you in any way:

Anthony Esser, Coordinator of Parish Evangelization, essera@adw.org

Jonathan Lewis, Assistant Secretary for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns, lewisj@adw.org

Deborah McDonald, Assistant Secretary for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns, mcdonald@adw.org

Jeannine Marino, Secretary for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns, marinoj@adw.org

Pastoral Care for the Sick

We will be asking Deans to coordinate with the pastors and priests of their deaneries to establish a plan for continuing the Pastoral Care of the Sick. Bishop Campbell, Bishop Fisher and Fr. Anthony Lickteig will be coordinating with the Deans and providing additional guidance on this and will be available to answer questions. The plan will include having designated priests that volunteer to be limited to anointing of the sick with the coronavirus and be required to take extra precautions, such as stay in self-isolation when they are not anointing. All other

priests would still be available for anointing of the sick and those suffering from other serious illness aside from the coronavirus.

As a reminder for pastoral care of the sick, please make sure to follow all current protocols recommended by health professionals. In the event that you are asked to anoint someone with the coronavirus, the Code of Canon Law permits the use of an instrument (CIC 1000 §2), for example, a cotton swab. In such a case, the instrument used should not come in contact again with the oil stock and should be disposed of immediately in a reverent manner. In case of necessity, a single anointing on the forehead or on any other part of the body with the entire sacramental form ("Through this holy anointing... May the Lord who frees you from sin...") suffices (CIC 1000 §1; PCS, 23). For further clarification, please contact Rev. Martino Choi, Director of the Office of Worship, at ChoiM@adw.org or at 301/853-4595.

Care for Elderly Priests and/or Priests with Underlying Conditions

Elderly priests and/or priests with underlying health conditions are more susceptible than others to complications from the coronavirus. If you fall in this category, please take extra precautions. This may include exercising some level of self-isolation in one's room and/or limiting time around others.

Local Jurisdiction Updates

State of Maryland Governor Larry Hogan today announced a change in their legal mandate, limiting gatherings to 10 persons. The District of Columbia's legal mandate remains at up to 50, with the exception being gatherings with people 60 years or older to be limited to 10 persons.

Human Resources and Staffing

On Friday, March 13, 2020 the Moderator of the Curia provided materials and guidelines to pastors on ADW Emergency Preparedness (Emergency Preparedness Measures linked [here](#)) as we manage the COVID 19 pandemic in the coming weeks. The guidelines provide direction on how school and parish employees should be compensated. If a parish or school has concerns about experiencing financial hardship while adhering to the guidelines, please be in touch with Mrs. Adrienne Willich, Executive Director of Parish and School Financial Operations, at willich@adw.org or at 301/853-5373.

As a reminder, employees may not be terminated, have a reduction of hours, or be laid off without guidance and written approval from HR. We continue to monitor all pending Federal legislation that might offer support or resources for our locations and/or employees and will provide guidance as it becomes available.

Financial Considerations

We have a multi-disciplinary team assessing and developing guidance on financial considerations that may be needed as we move forward in the weeks ahead. Linked [here](#) is a Financial Considerations document prepared by the Office of Parish and School Financial Operations with some preliminary considerations for planning purposes. We will have more guidance for you soon as we move forward. As mentioned above, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Adrienne Willich with any current questions or concerns.

BOOST (Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today)

The state of Maryland 2020 Legislative Session has concluded, and the BOOST Program has been approved for 2020-2021. The Program will provide \$7.5 million for scholarships next year.

Remind the Faithful to Check Information on the ADW Website

The archdiocesan website in response to the coronavirus is updated regularly with information, in English and Spanish, for you and for the faithful. I encourage you to continue to share this [website](#), which includes this [link](#) to find a listing of live stream Masses and prayers.

As ever, should you have questions or need assistance from my office or from the Pastoral Center, please let us know, and please be assured of my prayers for you.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am
Sincerely in Christ,
Reverend Daniel B. Carson
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia