



REVEREND DANIEL B. CARSON

VICAR GENERAL AND MODERATOR OF THE CURIA

Dear Brother Priest,

I write today to share updates with you. I will continue to keep you informed as we navigate this challenging time.

Plenary Indulgence

On the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Apostolic Penitentiary granted a plenary indulgence to the faithful suffering from coronavirus, family members of those suffering from coronavirus, health care workers caring for the sick, and to all members of the faithful. Since some of the usual conditions for plenary indulgences (namely, sacramental Confession and reception of the Eucharist) cannot be fulfilled immediately, the desire by the faithful to fulfill the conditions, as soon as it is possible, suffices for the granting of this indulgence. More information about the plenary indulgence will be shared on the **ADW website**, but we ask that you share this with your parishioners. Text of the Plenary Indulgence is linked in **English** and in **Spanish**.

Pastoral Resources

In order to help our parishioners to continue to pray at home as a Domestic Church, we are developing various resources. The Office of Catechesis recently sent guidance to the DREs to share on how to “Create a Family Prayer Space.” I share this with you in English and Spanish linked **here**. More pastoral resources will be sent to you next week as we get them developed.

Local Jurisdiction Updates

State of Maryland’s legal mandate continues to be 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.

Moderator of the Curia Updates

For ease of reference, the updates that have been shared with priests beginning February 28 up to now are available on the Clergy Only website linked **here**. Log in and then click on the “Moderator of the Curia Announcements” button.

Please note: Username: clergy Password: resources

Please do not edit the profile or password for this main account as it is shared by all priests of the archdiocese. The updates will continue to be e-mailed to you, but we wanted to provide a place where you can easily access prior updates if needed.

Protocol for Priests Not Feeling Well

If you develop symptoms that may include coughing, fever, and shortness of breath, contact your health care provider and follow their directions. If it is related to the coronavirus, please follow these protocols:

Scenario 1: If you are sent to get tested for the coronavirus because of your symptoms, please contact Bishop Fisher or my office. We will help you navigate the situation. Until you get the test results, you will need to self-quarantine (stay in the residence). If you live with another priest, you will need to self-isolate (stay in your living quarters and not be around anyone else in the residence) and other priests in the residence will need to self-quarantine while waiting for the results. If needed, we will help you prepare a communication to your parish community.

Scenario 2: If you get tested and receive a positive result for the coronavirus, please contact Bishop Fisher or my office. We will help you navigate the situation. We will also contact the local health department and the CDC. You will then need to self-isolate until the virus runs its course. If you live with other priests, they should get tested for the coronavirus and then continue self-quarantine. Please follow your health care provider's directions. If needed, we will help you prepare a communication to your parish community.

Scenario 3: If you get tested and receive a negative result for the coronavirus, please contact Bishop Fisher or my office. If you had issued an earlier communication to the parish community (like in scenario 1), we will help you prepare an updated communication to your parish community.

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.

Thank you for all that you continue to do. 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 continuing prayers for you.

Sincerely in Christ,
Reverend Daniel B. Carson
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia