

Dear Brother Priest,

I write today to provide you updates. I will continue to keep you informed during this challenging time.

Maryland Catholic Conference Letter on Racial Justice Now Available in Spanish

Archbishop Gregory, along with Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, Wilmington Bishop W. Francis Malooly, and six other Catholic bishops serving the state of Maryland have released a new letter on racial justice that is linked **here** in English and **here** in Spanish.

Update on the District of Columbia

Mayor Bowser announced today that she expects the District will be able to move to Phase Two of reopening on Monday, June 22. **Her plan** will allow for houses of worship to hold public services at 50 percent capacity up to a maximum of 100 persons with social distancing. Choirs and congregational singing are discouraged. Other parish gatherings, such as meetings or social gatherings, generally will be limited to 50 persons with social distancing. Summer camps will be limited to ten persons per grouping. More information will be provided when Mayor Bowser releases her executive order for Phase Two.

Eight Men to be Ordained as Priests for the Archdiocese of Washington

On Saturday, June 20, eight men will receive the sacrament of Holy Orders and be ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Washington, as well as one man to the transitional diaconate.

Due to restrictions on public gatherings in the District of Columbia, Washington Archbishop Wilton Gregory will ordain the men at St. Catherine Labouré in Wheaton, Maryland, during the Mass of Ordination at 10 a.m. Currently transitional deacons, the eight men are Patrick Agustin, Nathanael Anderson, James Glasgow, Jeremy Hammond, Emanuel Lucero, James Morrison, Francisco Rodriguez, and Stefan Yap.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and current restrictions, attendance, for both concelebrants and other guests, is by invitation only. The Mass will be live streamed on the Archdiocese of Washington's **YouTube Channel** and at <u>adw.org/ordination</u>. Read in-depth profiles of each new priest at cathstan.org.

Parishes throughout the archdiocese will offer **Eucharistic Adoration** this week for the intentions of the men to be ordained to the priesthood and the diaconate.

Parish Faith Formation Programs

Parish faith formation programs should consider modified program models for the fall. Strategic planning will ensure a smooth transition that complies with the health and safety protocols at that time, as well as offers formation that blends formats to meet the needs and resources for families. To help you in this planning the Office for Catechesis has developed the resource linked here in both English and Spanish. Sara Blauvelt (blauvelts@adw.org) is ready to assist with the planning process.

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

The archdiocesan website in response to the coronavirus is updated regularly with information, in English and Spanish, for you and the Faithful available at adw.org/coronavirus, which includes a link to find a listing of live stream Masses and prayers available at adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/. The Catholic Standard and the Spanish-language El Pregonero newspapers are currently available online at cathstan.org and elpreg.org.

As ever, should you have questions or need assistance from my office or the Pastoral Center, please let us know. 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