



REVEREND DANIEL B. CARSON

VICAR GENERAL AND MODERATOR OF THE CURIA

Dear Brother Priest,

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

District of Columbia Update

Mayor Bowser confirmed today that the District of Columbia will move into Phase 2 of its reopening plan on Monday, June 22nd. The Mayor's Executive Order, linked [here](#), allows D.C. parishes to resume public Mass at 50% capacity, with a maximum of 100 persons, starting on Monday. The Mayor's Office also published an additional guidance document for places of worship during Phase 2, attached [here](#), which we encourage you to review in conjunction with the archdiocesan guidelines. Among other things, the Mayor's supplemental guidance clarifies that the 50%/100-person capacity limit also applies to weddings, funerals, religious education classes, youth events, and other parish programming in the District during Phase 2.

The Mayor's Order also includes the following additional information regarding religious services: "Groups of persons attending [seated] together shall not exceed ten (10) persons. Each group must be seated at least six (6) feet from each other group. Places of worship that choose to operate on this limited basis must clean the facility between services and are encouraged to take reservations and assign seats to conform to this requirement and so as to facilitate contact tracing. Singing, choirs, all physical touching of others, and the passing or sharing of items pose particular dangers and are discouraged so as to prevent the spread of COVID-19."

Maryland County Updates

In Maryland, Montgomery County parishes may also resume public Mass at up to 25-30% capacity, starting today, June 19. As you know, parishes in Calvert County, Charles County, and St. Mary's County have already been permitted to resume public Mass at up to 50% capacity, and parishes in Prince George's County have been permitted to resume public Mass at up to 25% capacity.

Parish-Sponsored Events

As part of the re-opening process, Maryland and D.C. parishes are also permitted to resume parish-sponsored activities and short-term facilities rentals (through Catholic Mutual), on a case by case basis, at the pastor's discretion. Any requests to operate or host youth camps still require approval from the Moderator of the Curia. All usage requests must comply with the ADW's existing facilities usage

polices, as well as State and local regulations, particularly those relating to social distancing, capacity, and cleaning.

The Phase 2 reopening plans for Calvert County, Charles County, and St. Mary's County allow social and community gatherings (other than Mass) to resume at 50% indoor capacity, and outdoor gatherings are also allowed (with social distancing). Prince George's County allows up to 50 people for indoor/outdoor gatherings (other than Mass). Montgomery County also allows up to 50 people for indoor/outdoor gatherings (other than Mass), with additional spacing requirements (no more than 1 person/household per every 200 s.f. of space, up to 50 people). As indicated above, the District allows up to 50% capacity or 100 persons for parish programs. All other indoor/outdoor social and community gatherings in the District are limited to a maximum of 50 persons.

Please contact Kim Fiorentino (fiorentinok@adw.org or 301-853-4521) or Chris Anzidei (anzideic@adw.org or 301-853-5342) in the Office of General Counsel should you have any questions about these requirements.

Employee Vacation Leave Extended

See linked [here](#) a memorandum from Nanette Lowe, Executive Director of Human Resources, announcing the extension granted to employees for use of their vacation and NRI hours for this current fiscal year. Please distribute to your employees. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Nanette Lowe at lowen@adw.org.

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