

Dear Brother Priest,

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

October Head Count

The materials for conducting this year's October Mass Attendance Headcount include the following forms:

Parish Procedures linked here

Particular Mass Summary Sheet and Instructions (Appendix A) linked here

Particular Mass Tally Form (Appendix B) linked here

Report of Sunday Mass and Vigil Attendance (Appendix C) linked here.

Please note on the report for this year it asks you to record the total capacity of your church building <u>and</u> the current capacity of your church due to COVID-19 precautions.

Because of the Covid-19 restrictions on Mass attendance, it is understood that the numbers you will submit, in most cases, will be much lower than previous years. Please make every effort to see that the headcount is carried out as accurately as possible. Please note that the headcount does not affect any other quota, e.g., *Catholic Standard* distribution or the Annual Appeal.

Thank you for the care you have taken to assure the success of the October Headcount in previous years. I am most grateful for your responsiveness in returning this year's information by November 12, 2020. Please call Victoria Venable at 301-853-4596 if you have any questions.

Respect Life Summit

Throughout the month of October, the Office of Life Issues will be hosting a series of webinars on **Thursday afternoons at 3 PM**. All webinars will feature speakers from local community agencies that support mothers and children in need, following in the USCCB's theme of **Walking with Moms in Need**. Topics will include: crisis pregnancy center referrals, housing supports for young mothers, life affirming services for parents experiencing a difficult prenatal diagnosis, and post-abortion healing opportunities.

We encourage you to attend this series to learn more about the variety of supports and potential community partners in our region. Each webinar will feature a local speaker and will be followed by a 15-minute question and answer session. You can connect to the webinars using the link provided in the flyer that is linked **here**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Kathryn Windels, Director of Life Issues, at windelsk@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 <u>adw.org/coronavirus</u>, which includes a link to find a listing of live stream Masses and prayers available at <u>adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/</u>. The *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers are currently available on-line at <u>cathstan.org</u> and <u>elpreg.org</u>.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office and 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