



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 as we navigate this challenging time.

Come Home to the Heart of Communion Resource

The Office of Catechesis has developed a resource titled “Come Home to the Heart of Communion,” that may assist you in your efforts to invite the faithful of your parish back to the Eucharistic celebration. The print version bilingual invitation is available [here](#). Social media ready invitation is located [here](#) in English and [here](#) in Spanish.

Please distribute to your community in the ways you deem most effective.

New Montgomery County Executive Order on Mass Attendance

Montgomery County has issued a [new executive order](#), effective at 5 p.m. on September 22, which allows for greater attendance in religious facilities to about four persons per 200 sq. ft. (specifically, the order requires dividing total square footage of worship space by 50) up to a maximum of **40 percent building capacity**. Previously, the County restricted gatherings in religious facilities to one person/family per 200 sq. ft., which equates to about 25-30 percent of building capacity.

Also, leaders at Mass must be screened, including having their temperatures checked before serving as well as asking if they have any symptoms or have had any contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID. This screening should include all priests and deacons (already mandated in our Archdiocesan re-opening guidelines) as well as those who are in closer proximity to parishioners, including Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers. There is **no** requirement to similarly screen those who attend Mass.

Open House at Saint John XXIII Priest Retirement Residence

Father C. Gregory Butta will host an Open House at the Saint John XXIII Priest Retirement Residence on Sunday, October 11 from 2 pm – 4 pm. Linked [here](#) is an RSVP form if you plan to attend. Please note that masks will be required when walking about inside the facility.

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 on-line at cathstan.org and elpreg.org.

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