



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.

Christopher Anzidei Named General Counsel of the Archdiocese of Washington

On Wednesday, September 30, 2020, Archbishop Wilton Gregory named Mr. Christopher M. Anzidei, General Counsel of the Archdiocese of Washington, effective November 1, 2020.

The general counsel is the archdiocese's principal legal advisor, responsible for overseeing legal affairs and advising on all matters having legal implications for the archdiocese, its parishes, schools, administrative departments and affiliated ministries. They include providing guidance in every aspect of the archdiocese's operations, including in areas involving contracts; real estate transactions; employment; education and school operations; child protection; corporate governance; religious liberty; tax status; litigation management and dispute resolution; and compliance with federal, state and local laws and applicable provisions of Church law.

Chris has served the archdiocese in the Office of General Counsel since January 2016; first as staff attorney and since October 2017 as Deputy General Counsel.

Before joining the archdiocese in 2016, Chris spent seventeen years as a practicing attorney and is admitted to the bar in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. For fifteen years Chris was an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center. Chris earned his B.A. in Political Science and History from Rutgers University, graduating *Summa Cum Laude* in 1996 and received his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1999. Chris' family attends Little Flower Parish in Bethesda, Maryland. He and his wife Rebecca have two sons (Vince, age 13 and Timothy, age 9) and one daughter (Helen, age 10).

"I am pleased that Chris has accepted the position of General Counsel of the Archdiocese of Washington," Archbishop Gregory said. "His skill and dedication to this local Church is easily seen by me, and more importantly, by our priests, parishes and schools staff that he has assisted with skill and faithfulness over the years. I look forward to working with Chris as together, we continue to bring Christ's love to the faithful of the Archdiocese of Washington. I ask God's blessings on Chris as he assumes this very important role."

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Presbyteral Conferences with Archbishop Gregory – Schedule Change

The Presbyteral Conferences previously scheduled for October 14 have been rescheduled for October 16, 1:00pm – 3:00pm. If you wish to schedule a conference call time with the Archbishop, please contact Deirdre Schmutz at 301-853-4420 or schmutzd@adw.org.

CRIAC Relief Program for DC Parishes

As noted in the recent Clergy News, this year, all of our District of Columbia parishes will need to reapply for 2020-2021 in order to obtain the financial relief that parish properties are entitled to receive [under the D.C. Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge \(CRIAC\) Nonprofit Relief Program](#). The application period to receive reimbursement for a portion of the [CRIAC fee](#) on their monthly water bills began on September 21, 2020, and will remain open until August 31, 2021, but you are urged to apply as soon as possible.

A blank application may be viewed [here](#), and you may apply for the FY2021 program online [here](#). But please see the attached sample application linked **here** that has been prepared by our financial and legal teams for parish-specific information on how to fill out the application.

Please give this matter your highest attention as the amount of money that can be saved from the CRIAC Relief Program can be quite significant.

Last year, 33 of our D.C. parishes applied and all received relief, averaging over \$6,500 per parish. The program is especially welcome in these challenging financial times. Please also share this information with relevant parish staff. If you have any questions about the financial requirements, please contact Adrienne Willich, Executive Director of Parish and School Financial Operations, WillichA@adw.org or (301) 853-5373, and direct other eligibility questions to Chris Anzidei, Deputy General Counsel, AnzideiC@adw.org or (301) 853-5342.

Montgomery County Grants of up to \$5,000 are Available

Parishes and schools in Montgomery County may be eligible to apply for up to \$5,000 under the [Reopen Montgomery Small Business Grant Program](#). The grant is limited to reimbursement of expenses to comply with Maryland and Montgomery County reopening requirements. Parishes and schools are not eligible if they have received other grants or financial assistance from Montgomery County for reopening expenses. For further information, including additional eligibility requirements, please see [here](#).

Planning to Thrive

The impacts of the pandemic continue to be felt in a very real way in lower Mass attendance, decreased school enrollment and declines in giving. This moment

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offers our parishes an opportunity to discern a renewed focus on evangelization, parish outreach and financial prudence. I'm very proud of the increased efforts on the part of our clergy and parish staff to find new and creative ways to evangelize, provide pastoral care and encourage giving.

Over the past months, we have shared various tools and materials to aid pastors in pastoral planning and financial budgeting. I'm now pleased to announce that a joint team of Pastoral Ministry and Parish Finance is offering customized meetings with pastors who would like to engage in dialogue and receive support regarding the challenges and opportunities at the parish. Please contact either Dr. Jeannine Marino, Secretary for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns at MarinoJ@adw.org or Adrienne Willich, Executive Director of Parish and School Financial Operations at WillichA@adw.org to arrange your meeting.

Priest Holy Hours

The next virtual priest Holy Hours will be Thursday, October 1 and Thursday, November 5 at 5:00 pm. There will be Exposition, Evening Prayer, a short reflection on priesthood, and a final blessing for healing and protection. All priests are invited! These times of Eucharistic Adoration have been a special grace for priests. Given all that is happening in our nation, perhaps there is an even greater need for priests to pray together for the health, peace, and unity of our people.

The GoToMeeting login information is below (Please login in a few minutes early just to get the tech working). For more information, contact Msgr. Steve Rossetti at sjrossetti@gmail.com. May Our Blessed Mother spread her mantle over us and our entire Church during these challenging times. God keep you all safe, healthy, and at peace.

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone:

<https://www.gotomeet.me/StephenRossetti>

You can also dial in using your phone:

United States: +1 (408) 650-3123

Access Code: 997-240-437

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/997240437>

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