

Dear Brother Priest,

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

Nationwide Day of Fasting and Prayer

Archbishop Wilton Gregory will celebrate Mass tomorrow, September 9, at noon at St. Peter Claver Church in St. Inigoes, Maryland. The Mass – offered on the feast day of the parish – is part of a nationwide Day of Fasting and Prayer called for by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to make reparation for the sin of racism and to recommit to seeking racial justice.

Bishop Fabre, Chair of the USCCB's Ad Hoc Committee on Racism, requested that the faithful fast and pray on September 9, the Feast of St. Peter Claver. "We urge Catholics to consider attending the Holy sacrifice of the Mass and offer your participation in reparation for sins of racism to the Sacred Heart of Jesus," he said.

More information can be found at

https://cathstan.org/news/local/archbishop-gregory-celebrating-sept-9-mass-forday-of-fasting-and-prayer-to-end-sin-of-racism

Please communicate this to your communities in a way you deem appropriate.

One Congregation One Precinct (OneCOP) Initiative

The "One Congregation One Precinct" (OneCOP) initiative is a program developed to improve community safety by creating strategic partnerships between beat and patrol officers and faith congregations. The initiative aims to allow officers who participate in these programs to personally know people in their assigned communities by building relationships with congregations in their area of responsibility.

There are several parts of this initiative, including having a congregation reach out through OneCOP to a local police department to develop a relationship with a particular officer. If there is a member of your parish who is in law enforcement, after reaching out to that officer, you may consider praying for them during Mass or making mention of them in the bulletin. There is also a "Faith and Blue Weekend" from October 9-11, 2020, which would allow parishes to host an event, if desired, to promote collaboration between a local police department and a parish or parishes. Participation in this initiative could also include inserting a Prayer of the Faithful for law enforcement, and if so desired, a bulletin announcement regarding this weekend.

Archbishop Gregory has coordinated with Msgr. Sal Criscuolo, Chaplain of the Metropolitan Police Department, who has reviewed this program and found it to be worthwhile.

For more information regarding this program, please visit:

https://movementforward.org/onecop/

Charles County, Maryland Offering PPE to Non-Profit Organizations

The Charles County, Maryland government is offering face coverings, N95 and surgical masks, hand sanitizer, gloves and gowns to Non Profit Organizations in Charles County, MD. Linked **here** is a request form.

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 online at <u>cathstan.org</u> and <u>elpreg.org</u>.

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