

Dear Brother Priest,

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

Cardinal Gregory's Op-Ed in the Washington Post

Linked <u>here</u> is Cardinal Gregory's Op-Ed in Tuesday's edition of the Washington Post.

Faculty for Priests to Celebrate Four Masses (revised date for celebration of Epiphany)

In order to allow the greatest number of the faithful the opportunity to attend Mass in their churches on the holy days of the coming season, while respecting the measures taken to protect public health, and in accordance with the Decree issued by the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments on 16 December 2020, Cardinal Gregory has granted to Archdiocese of Washington priests and priests resident in the Archdiocese of Washington, the faculty to celebrate four Masses on each of the following holy days:

The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas), 25 December 2020;

The Solemnity of Mary, the Most Holy Mother of God, 1 January 2021; and

The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, celebrated on 3 January 2021.

Please note that the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation, issued on April 11, 2020, remains in effect.

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see <u>adw.org/coronavirus</u>for information related to the coronavirus, <u>adw.org/live-</u><u>streamed-masses-and-prayers/</u> for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and <u>cathstan.org</u> and <u>elpreg.org</u> for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanishlanguage *El Pregonero* newspapers.

Thank You & Merry Christmas!

I appreciate all that you have done and continue to do in serving the faithful and your communities during this very challenging year. I hope that you have a very blessed Christmas season. May we all look toward the New Year 2021 with hope of a healthy and post-pandemic future.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office and the Pastoral Center, please let us know.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am Sincerely in Christ, Reverend Daniel B. Carson Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia