



**Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson**

Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

Dear Brother Priest,

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

**Reverend Anthony Lickteig Appointed Secretary for Ministerial Leadership**

Cardinal Wilton Gregory has appointed Fr. Anthony Lickteig as Secretary for Ministerial Leadership. Fr. Lickteig takes on this role as he continues in his role as Vicar for Clergy. Please join me in congratulating Fr. Lickteig and praying for him as he assumes the Secretary position.

**Bishop Fisher Installation as Bishop of Buffalo – Friday, January 15 at 2 pm**

Bishop Fisher will be installed as the 15<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Buffalo on Friday, January 15 at 2 pm. The installation can be viewed at this link:

<https://www.YouTube.com/SaintJosephCathedral/>

**Lenten Confession**

As social distancing guidelines remain this Lent, we will not ask parishes to host Confession times on a specific day or night of the week. We do, however, encourage parishes to continue to offer the Sacrament of Confession in safe and creative ways that meet the needs of your people.

While the handing out of parish printed materials has been discouraged, we recognize that many Catholics rely upon Confession materials to make a good Confession. We ask that any materials used by a parishioner is taken home with them and not touched and reused by others.

To request Confession cards in English, Spanish, French, or Vietnamese, please click [here](#). Additional Confession resources can be found year-round [here](#).

**March for Life Recommendations**

The March for Life date of January 29<sup>th</sup> is fast approaching which means that requests and questions will increase leading up to this event. COVID-19 cases across the country continue to rise so an event that draws people nationally to our

area increases the risks for spreading this virus. To protect our staff and parishioners, the Archdiocese of Washington has a few recommendations:

Stay updated on county and state guidelines for travel and gatherings

Avoid any overnight events including hosting outside groups in your parish

It is not advisable to organize transportation for large groups such as buses

Protect travelers by following CDC recommendations for transportation which can be found [here](#).

Consider sharing information on virtual participation, or hosting a gathering on a virtual platform. More information on the livestream of the March for Life is available [here](#).

The past year has been extremely challenging for all of us and events such as the March for Life are different this year. Please contact my office if you have any questions or concerns with preparations for the March for Life or other events in your parish.

### **Payroll Protection Program (PPP) Update**

At the end of December, Congress passed another COVID-19 relief package, which included the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act. This legislation made changes to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) intended to assist borrowers who have existing loans and re-opened the PPP loan process for new loans to be issued through March 31, 2021.

Some of the changes that may benefit our parishes with [existing](#) PPP loans include: (1) borrowers can now choose a custom covered period between 8 and 24 weeks for use of PPP funds; (2) borrowers with loans under \$150,000 can use a simplified process for loan forgiveness, with less required documentation to be submitted to the bank (the SBA will soon be publishing a new form); and (3) PPP funds can be used for additional categories of eligible expenses, including coverage for personal protection equipment (PPE) and facilities expenses. Parish Finance will be communicating additional information to bookkeepers on these changes as the SBA publishes further guidance and the new forms. If you have any questions about loan forgiveness of an [existing loan](#), please contact Adrienne Willich in Parish Finance at 301-853-5373 or [willicha@adw.org](mailto:willicha@adw.org). Please also be reminded that loan forgiveness applications require submission and review by Parish Finance before submitting to the lender.

You may have also heard that the Economic Aid Act reopened the PPP process with \$284 billion in funding available for borrowers to apply for a second PPP loan if certain requirements are met, including: (1) that the borrower used the entirety of its first PPP loan for authorized purposes; (2) that the borrower can show a 25% drop in revenue (comparing any quarter of 2020 vs. the same quarter in

2019); and (3) that the borrower has under 300 employees. This new window for PPP loans will be open from January 11- March 31, 2021.

We are currently reviewing program requirements and eligibility restrictions applicable to the second round of PPP funding and expect to provide further guidance soon. In particular, we are carefully evaluating the implications of our parishes and schools continuing to receive federal funding, which could have adverse consequences on the Catholic identity of our institutions. The Office of the Moderator of the Curia expects to communicate further information shortly. **Parishes may not apply for a second round of PPP funding until a decision has been communicated from the Moderator's Office.**

### **Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website**

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see [adw.org/coronavirus](http://adw.org/coronavirus) for information related to the coronavirus, [adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/](http://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/) for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and [cathstan.org](http://cathstan.org) and [elpreg.org](http://elpreg.org) for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers.

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,  
Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson  
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia