



## 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.

### **Death Notice of Mr. Dennis R. Wuerl, Sr.**

Please find linked [here](#) the letter concerning the death of Mr. Dennis R. Wuerl, Sr., brother of Cardinal Donald Wuerl. Please keep Cardinal Wuerl and the Wuerl family in your prayers.

### **Covid-19 Vaccine**

Click [here](#) to review the current ADW chart summarizing all of our local jurisdiction's phases for availability of the vaccine. Please see below for some specific updates on the vaccine availability in Maryland and the District of Columbia. We will keep you updated as new avenues and eligibility to vaccines are made available.

#### Vaccine in Maryland Update:

On Friday we received news that the next phase of Maryland's vaccinations, Phase 1C (Essential workers), will now include clergy and other essential support for houses of worship. This phase begins today, January 25. The State's notice does not provide further guidance as to what "essential support" means, but Phase 1C broadly includes workers who interact with the public. At your discretion, you may consider notifying at least those employees or volunteers whose duties include assisting with Mass or with other parish ministries or functions that involve public interaction. As a reminder, the pastor and parish office staff names at parishes with schools may have already been provided to the health departments with the school registration list.

Click [here](#) to review the notice from the Maryland Department of Health.

If you are unsure where to go to sign up in Maryland, the website <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine> allows you to enter your ZIP code to find which hospitals and locations are providing the vaccine and where

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you can go to schedule an appointment. This is challenging since there are few openings at this time. However, it is noted that Wal-Mart and Giant Foods in Maryland are preparing to also begin providing vaccines to those eligible beginning possibly as soon as today, January 25, which would include our priests, deacons and essential support for houses of worship.

To find the lists of Wal-Marts and Giant Food Stores near you click this link: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/maryland-retail-vaccination-sites>.

To register for Giant Foods locations, you can call the local store beginning today, January 25 or click this link: <https://giantfood.com/pages/covid-info>

The Catholic Schools Office has been assisting parishes with schools in registering through the State and local health departments. As a reminder, the pastor and parish office staff names should have been provided to the health departments with the school registration list.

#### Vaccine in the District of Columbia Update:

In the District of Columbia, eligibility for the vaccine is still limited to residents 65 years and older. Appointments may be made through the District's Registration Portal. We realize due to the limited number of appointments that it has been challenging to register. Appointments are being added daily.

#### **Virtual Rally and Mass for Life – January 29, 2021**

This is a reminder that on the morning of Friday, January 29, 2021, the Archdiocese of Washington will be hosting our annual Youth Rally and Mass for Life. With the uncertainty across the country, the Archdiocese of Washington has transitioned the 2021 Rally and Mass for Life to a virtual event. There will not be an in-person event in 2021 at Capital One Arena.

Each year we are very blessed to have many priests attend the Rally and Mass. Due to the change to a virtual event and with restrictions in the District of Columbia, attendance at the location is very limited. We are grateful for your assistance and support in previous years and we hope that we will be in a position to host this event in person with a larger audience in 2022!

You are invited to join us virtually for this year's Rally and Mass for Life. The Rally will begin at 8:30 a.m. followed by the Mass for Life celebrated by Cardinal Gregory at 10:00 a.m. You can register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-youth-rally-and-mass-for-life-tickets-128047711151> and a link to join online will be sent before the day of the event.

Thank you for your dedication to the Youth Rally and Mass for Life!

#### **National Prayer Vigil for Life**

The National Prayer Vigil for Life will begin on January 28, 2021 at 8:00 PM with a live broadcast from the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Due to coronavirus restrictions, the Mass and vigil will be closed to the public. Bishops in dioceses across the country will be taking turns leading live-streamed holy hours every hour on the hour throughout the all-night vigil. These holy hours will be broadcast on the USCCB website. The vigil will conclude at 8:00 AM on Friday, January 29 with Mass celebrated by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore

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

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see [adw.org/coronavirus](https://adw.org/coronavirus) for information related to the coronavirus, [adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/](https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/) for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and [cathstan.org](https://cathstan.org) and [elpreg.org](https://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