



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.

At-Home First Penance Retreat

In light of remote and modified catechetical models, the Office for Catechesis has developed the attached At-Home First Penance Retreat. If you are unable to meet in-person for a First Penance retreat for parents/students, please encourage parents to work with their child on sacramental preparation using the First Penance At-Home Retreat linked [here](#) in English and linked [here](#) in Spanish. Sara Blauvelt (blauvelts@adw.org) is happy to discuss use of the At-Home First Penance Retreat should you have any questions.

Annual Mass Celebrating the Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach would like to invite you, and your parish communities, to participate in this year's Virtual Martin Luther King Jr. Mass. The event will be livestreamed on Saturday, January 16th at 5 pm and is co-sponsored with the Center for Cultural Diversity at the Catholic University of America and Howard University's Bison Catholic Community.

More information, and a link to the livestream, can be found [here](#).

Recommended Mid-Year Financial Report to Parishioners

Across the parishes, we continue to see, on average, a 10% decline in offertory income from the prior year. We are hopeful that online giving, year-end donations and Christmas offertory will provide a needed boost to parish revenue. We are pleased at the number of parishes that have strategically economized yet continue to deliver vibrant ministry to the faithful.

However, as the uncertainty persists as we keep hopeful for a full return to normal operations, I highly encourage you continue to be transparent with parishioners about the financial condition of the parish. I recommend that you make a mid-year financial report to parishioners using the sample template linked [here](#).

To best engage on the subject with your parishioners, you can modify the template and communicate in the most effective way you see fit, e.g., Flocknote, bulletin, mail, etc. To enable a timely parishioner response of prayerful support, I recommend that you issue the report as soon as is convenient, but no later than February 15. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Adrienne Willich at willich@adw.org.

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

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