



# Moderator of the Curia

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington

Dear Brother Priests,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

## **For Your Awareness**

I wanted to alert you to the below message that has been sent by local law enforcement to local churches. Now may be a good time to revisit parish security protocols, ensure that your ushers are trained to handle any possible disturbances, check to make sure security cameras and systems and exterior lighting are properly functioning, and, as always, contact law enforcement to report any security incidents or safety concerns.

*The Prince George's County Police Department would like to provide you with some information for your situational awareness **only** at this time.*

*The Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center has provided the attached photo of Mr. Andrew Birrell, who was recently released from a mental health facility in New York. Mr. Birrell made a threat to kill pastors, which resulted in him being transported to a mental health facility by law enforcement in Geneseo, New York for treatment. As of Thursday, April 6, 2023, Mr. Birrell was confirmed to be in Washington D.C. He was interviewed by Metropolitan Police Department officers and cooperated fully with them. There is no indication of Mr. Birrell being in Prince George's County, however, our officers have been asked to conduct premise checks at all faith-based locations within the areas of their responsibility.*

*Please do not hesitate to contact law enforcement if Mr. Birrell is seen near your place of worship. He is not wanted for any crimes at this time; however, officers can engage him in conversation to ensure the safety of everyone.*

*Remember to use the non-emergency line to report any suspicious activity by dialing 301-352-1200 and 911 for emergencies.*

*Mr. Birrell is 5'11" and weighs 168lbs and his picture is included below.*



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

The archdiocesan website, [adw.org](http://adw.org) and [adw.org/es](http://adw.org/es), is updated regularly with current information for you to share with your community. Please see [adw.org/coronavirus](http://adw.org/coronavirus) for information related to Covid-19. Daily news and information about our parishes, schools, and ministries are also available at [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 yours in Christ,

**Most Reverend Juan Esposito**

*Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia*



The Roman Catholic  
*Archdiocese of* Washington

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