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RESPONDING TO CORONAVIRUS

The Archdiocese of Baltimore is continually monitoring advice from public health officials and local, state and federal governments for the best ways of responding to the coronavirus (COVID19). We offer the following resources and policies to help Catholics of the Archdiocese in an ever-changing climate. You will also find a link to online Masses and a newsfeed with local, national and international coverage of the pandemic.

We join Pope Francis in asking for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for a halt to the spread of the virus.

Masses Cancelled in Archdiocese of Baltimore

After receiving an update from State officials late today (March 14) on the current impact of the COVID-19 virus and acting on the advice of medical professionals, Archbishop William E Lori has determined that to safeguard the well-being the faithful of the Archdiocese of Baltimore and to prevent further community spread of the virus, all public Masses are canceled until further notice.

Archbishop Lori will celebrate a private Mass at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen at 11 a.m. Sunday. A livestream of the Mass, along with other spiritual resources, will be available



Archdiocese of Baltimore Schools Closed

Archbishop William E. Lori issued the following statement following the March 12 press conference of Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, during which the

through www.archbalt.org.

The faithful are encouraged to remain connected to their parishes and invited to participate in the Mass via broadcast and livestream.

“My highest priority is the safety and welfare of the people of God of this Archdiocese,” Archbishop Lori said. “I take this step with great sadness, but also with wholehearted determination that we continue to provide for the spiritual well-being of the faithful at a time when their faith is most needed.”

Official Guidelines

Archbishop William E. Lori has announced the following updated guidelines (updates underlined) for the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy during this flu season and in light of concerns about the COVID-19 virus. These guidelines reinforce recommended practices to reduce the transmission of

governor addressed major steps being taken after the state confirmed its first case of community transmitted coronavirus:

“In light of the order today by Gov. Hogan that all public schools be closed for the next two weeks, I have similarly instructed that all archdiocesan schools be closed during the same time period, March 16-27, 2020 and that all school-sponsored activities be cancelled during that same timeframe,” the archbishop said.

Archbishop Lori created a task force to guide all archdiocesan decisions related to the COVID-19 virus, to be led by Auxiliary Bishop Adam J. Parker, and distributed detailed guidance to all parishes on liturgical safeguards, parish events and meetings, travel and other related concerns. In addition, archdiocesan schools have been making preparations for the offering of distance learning and out-of-school instruction.

illnesses and are in effect until further notice.

Updated March 14, 2020

1. The Archbishop of Baltimore has canceled all public Masses until further notice.
2. Holy Water fonts may be drained and remain empty at the discretion of each pastor. If they are not to remain empty, they must be drained, cleaned with a disinfectant, and re-filled with holy water on a regular basis. Please note that the removed holy water should be disposed of appropriately in the *sacrarium* or poured into the ground.
3. Alcohol-based or other appropriate waterless hand sanitizers should be made available at all church entrances. Additional precautions should be used in the maintenance of worship spaces and church halls, in particular the disinfecting of areas or

items which come into contact with hands, such as handrails, restroom areas, and the tops of pews.

4. Please be advised that until further notice, weddings and funerals may proceed but attendance should be limited to immediate family. Compliance with all state and local government-imposed restrictions on the number of people at public gatherings is mandatory, regardless of the type of gathering.
5. While churches should remain open for private prayer, including adoration, there should be no scheduled “services” that would bring people together at a specific time. Numbers of those in church should be monitored and signs noting the State order on the limitation of gatherings, social distancing and providing guidance on hygiene should be posted. Hand sanitizer should be

made available, if possible.
People who are ill or
vulnerable to illness should
be reminded that they
should stay home for their
safety and for the safety of
others. Ushers/parish staff
should be instructed to
encourage social distancing
if it isn't being properly
observed. Changes by the
State or local authority
could alter this guidance.

Updated March 15, 2020

EL ARZOBISPO LORI
ANUNCIA LAS GUÍAS
LITÚRGICAS PARA
PROTEGER A LOS FIELES
CONTRA LAS
ENFERMEDADES

Media inquiries should be directed to the Office of Communications:
communications@archbalt.org



Online, Radio and Televised Masses

Catholics of the archdiocese are reminded that if they are ill or suspect they are ill with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation. They should remain home and return to church when they are well. Here is a link to radio and televised Masses for the sick and homebound: <https://www.archbalt.org/online-mass/>

myParish App

Stay up-to-date with what is going on in your parish with the myParish app. You will receive instant notifications, participate in online Masses, daily Mass readings, archdiocesan and international news, prayers, broadcasts of the Catholic Baltimore radio show and so much more!



Liturgical Resources

For free downloads of daily liturgical readings, pre-written prayers for the General Intercessions and other liturgical resources, [click here](#).

NOVENA PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



Archbishop William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore and Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, invites all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Baltimore and all members of the Knights of Columbus and their families to join him in praying a novena — nine days of prayer — to the Blessed Virgin

Mary beginning
Sunday, March 15.

The novena,
inspired by a prayer
by Pope Francis,
asks Mary for her
intercession and
protection from the
coronavirus.

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CORONAVIRUS COVERAGE / VIEW

ALL



**Archbishop
Lori's
Homily: 3rd
Sunday of**



**Archbishop
Lori leads
Mass in
'extraordinar**



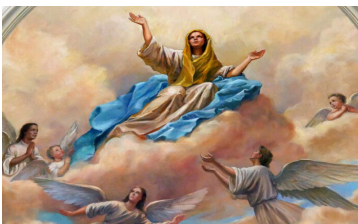
**Masses
Cancelled in
Archdiocese
of Baltimore**

Lent; Live-Streamed Mass (Coronavirus Crisis)

We are united in prayer this Sunday at a moment unprecedented in living memory. As the Coronavirus continues to spread, we are facing a global pandemic, a pandemic that has...

 **ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM E. LORI**

 **ARCHBISHOP LORI HOMILY, CORONAVIRUS, FROM THE ARCHBISHOP**



Archbishop Lori encourages novena

'Times' for coronavirus

If all the people watching the livestream of the 11 a.m. Mass March 15 at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Homeland had been in the cathedral itself, it...

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At the forefront of the U.S. response to

After receiving an update from State officials late today on the current impact of the COVID-19 virus and acting on the advice of medical professionals, Archbishop William E Lori has...

 **ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE**

 **CORONAVIRUS, FEATURE, LOCAL NEWS, NEWS, PRESS RELEASE**



Archbishop Lori issues dispensation for Mass

prayer against coronavirus

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NEWS

coronavirus is a devout Baltimore Catholic

As Redfield helps lead the federal response to the growing threat of the coronavirus, also known as Covid-19, his pastor and friends say his years of work studying viruses along...

 TIM SWIFT |
CATHOLIC REVIEW

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NEWS

attendance

Archbishop William E. Lori announced March 13 that he has dispensed all members of the faithful of the Archdiocese of Baltimore from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, including those...

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 CORONAVIRUS, LOCAL
NEWS, NEWS

LOAD MORE



Other Resources

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Maryland Department of Health](#)
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel](#)
- [Baltimore City Health Department](#)
- [USCCB Memo on Liturgical Celebrations and Public Health Concerns](#)

Recommendations from the Center for Disease Control

The following are recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose,

coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, please use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoid close contact with people who have a cough, fever, or shortness of breath.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are feeling ill.
- Cough or sneeze into the sleeve of your elbow or use a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using regular household cleaning sprays or wipes.

TRANSLATE

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ABOUT US

God calls the
Catholics of the

MISSION

As disciples of
Jesus our mission

Archdiocese of
Baltimore to be a
welcoming,
worshipping
community of
faith, hope, and
love. Through his
Spirit, the Lord
Jesus lives in
those who
believe, and
reaches into our
world with his
saving message
and healing love.

CONTACT

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Baltimore
320 Cathedral
Street
Baltimore, MD
21201

is:

Evangelization: to
evangelize
ourselves, our
families, our
parish and local
communities, and
our world.

Liturgy: to
celebrate our
faith with joy
through vibrant
and prayerful
worship.

Education: to
educate and
become educated
in the truths of
the Gospel and in
the formation of
conscience.

Service: to reach
out in love and
service to those in
need.

Stewardship: to
develop the
material, financial
and human
resources of the
Church and to
manage them as

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