

Archdiocese of Baltimore
Guidelines for Responding to the COVID-19 Virus
June 8, 2020

To limit the amount of information being shared and to make this document as easy to read and helpful as possible, it will be limited to mostly updated/new information. Limited “repeat” information is included in italics. A comprehensive set of guidelines can be found at www.archbalt.org/coronavirus.

General

- A. As noted in previous guidance, if a cantor or soloist is used during Mass, he or she should remain more than 6 feet from the congregation; a recommended distance would be 18-30 feet away if possible. You might consider announcing at the beginning of Mass that the Archdiocese has asked that singing by the congregation be suspended to further avoid the possibility of spreading the virus due to the increased dispersion of droplets that occurs during singing.

- B. In response to parishioners who are reluctant to wear masks, even when provided by the parish, it may be helpful to remind them that this requirement is in place to protect their fellow parishioners, some of whom, including our priests, may be particularly vulnerable to the virus.

Communication

- A. *Repeat information: A page on the archdiocesan website has been established where all pastoral resources will be kept: <https://www.archbalt.org/pastoralresources/>*
- B. *Repeat information: There is one central contact for the Archdiocese for all questions, concerns and reports involving the COVID-19 virus: riskmanagement@archbalt.org. As more information becomes available and as we learn of other questions or concerns more updates will be forthcoming. Updates will also be posted to <https://www.archbalt.org/coronavirus/>, where you can refer parishioners and others for the latest information and news.*