

Archdiocese of Baltimore
Guidelines for Responding to the COVID-19 Virus
May 28, 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 a clarification, beginning May 30, in jurisdictions that are allowing public masses, archdiocesan guidance allows parishes to hold baptisms, weddings, funerals and daily masses for up to 1/3 the seating capacity of the church with proper social distancing. All of the same archdiocesan health and safety protocols for Sunday masses apply to these celebrations as well.
- B. Until further notice, youth activities and other in-person ministerial gatherings are not allowed until the Archdiocesan Phase II guidelines for administrative and ministerial activities are activated. Guidance for those activities will be issued in the near future.
- C. **Attached** are several graphics for use in your social media to assist in preparing your parishioners in those jurisdictions that will be reopening.
- D. The issue of the Howard County guidance potentially prohibiting the distribution of communion has been resolved. Please see the **attached** statement the county issued today.
- E. In response to several requests, we are again forwarding the **attached** Protocols for Cleaning and Disinfecting Churches and Six Workplace Readiness Essentials documents, which can also be found online at www.archbalt.org/coronavirus-guidelines in the Information for Parishes Section.

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.*