

The Latest Coronavirus Guidelines from the Archdiocese

3/16/2020

The **intentions** for all Masses celebrated sine populo will be re-assigned as “missas pro populo” — Masses offered for the people. The original intentions of these Masses will be assigned for a future Mass at a later date, as times become available.

Eucharistic Adoration: Decisions regarding whether to continue operation of adoration chapels should be determined by the pastor. However, the exposed Blessed Sacrament is never to be left unattended. If necessary, the Blessed Sacrament may be reposed in the tabernacle at least two times during a period of adoration. Please take care to implement the most recent social distancing guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), ensuring that no more than 10 individuals are gathered in Eucharistic adoration at one time.

Weddings/funerals/baptisms: The decisions regarding whether to continue with weddings and funerals remain with the parish pastor. The Archdiocese of St. Louis recommends limiting attendance at these sacred events to immediate family members only – or rescheduling. Parish pastors should determine whether to continue with baptisms. Where possible, the Archdiocese of St. Louis recommends that baptisms be conducted in a simple, private, individual ceremony.

Anointing of the Sick: may still be administered by priests to those seriously ill or in danger of death. However, priests administering this sacrament need to be in good health. If you are administering to someone with COVID-19, please contact the Office of Worship ahead of time. All those administering sacraments to the elderly, sick or homebound need to follow proper protocols from the CDC for handwashing and use of masks by those infected and those who are ministering.

Collections: Please remind parishioners that collections remain essential to the continued operation of our parishes and their missions. Encourage them to use online giving, drop-off or mail their contributions.

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Charitable giving: The Archdiocese of St. Louis understands the economic impact that this emergency is having on so many individuals in our parishes, as well as on our community as a whole. However, in times like this, it is even more urgent for us to assist our brothers and sisters who are in the most need. We encourage you to consider supporting organizations that are responding to this crisis, such as [Catholic Charities of St. Louis](#), [The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Louis](#) and the [Annual Catholic Appeal](#).

Assisting individuals in need: Please continue to work to support individuals who depend on parish charitable efforts for food and other necessities. You may refer parishioners and others who request assistance to The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Louis: dial 2-1-1; and/or Catholic Charities of St. Louis: dial (314) 367-5500 or email info@ccstl.org.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul operations: Person-to-person home visits are temporarily suspended, but the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conferences are still taking calls. SVdP's goal is to keep as many food pantries functioning as possible with altered procedures such as porch deliveries, bagging and picking up food, and distributing food vouchers or gift cards to those in need. Those in need should call 2-1-1.

Catholic Charities of St. Louis operations: All Catholic Charities agencies continue to review services as recommended by health officials. Some services are being modified, and some non-critical services have been postponed. Catholic Charities is also working with the archdiocese and community partners to develop additional community relief efforts. If an individual is in need of services from a Catholic Charities agency, please refer them to the agency website (ccstl.org), to call the Catholic Charities office at (314) 367-5500 or to email info@ccstl.org.