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March 23, 2020

Dear Brothers,

It is with great sadness that I have to announce to you and the faithful that Holy Week celebrations will not be offered publicly this year. I know for many of us, bringing new people into the life of the Church is a high point of the liturgical year. You have been working hard over these past days to provide spiritual support for your parishioners. For this and for all the other work you are doing, I am extremely grateful!

You will find [here liturgical directives](#) during this time of “Stay Home, Stay Safe” which includes Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Also, I have [issued directives](#) regarding Sacramental Confession and General Absolution during this time. I am grateful for the support of the Liturgical Committee, especially Msgr. Gary Smetanka, for their counsel in both sets of directives.

I have asked all the faithful in the Archdiocese of Detroit to join me, the Holy Father and those around the world in these two times of prayer this week. Please support your parishioners in making this a time for prayer in their lives:

1. Wednesday, March 25 – the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord – to pause at 12 noon to pray the Our Father.
2. Friday, March 27 to pray at 1:00 p.m. (in union with the Holy Father in Rome) and, as you are able, to receive [the Plenary Indulgence that will accompany the Eucharistic Benediction](#) from the Holy Father on this occasion.

Please remember our need to pray for each other during these days. If my team at Central Services can be of assistance in any of your needs in the days ahead, please contact them, as they are committed to helping our pastors through these unprecedented times.

Please know of my daily prayers for you. Asking the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL

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