

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH—LARGO
CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Due to the spread of the Coronavirus, the Archdiocese of Washington, consistent with the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia governments, has issued [directives](#) canceling ALL public Mass at parishes in the Archdiocese of Washington, starting **this Saturday, March 14th**, until further notice. Weddings and funerals, with attendance limited to immediate family members, will proceed as scheduled.

As a result of this, the following prudent precautions are being followed:

St. Joseph Catholic Church in Largo, MD will **SUSPEND ALL WEEKEND MASSES AND ALL DAILY MASSES**, beginning **March 14, 2020**, until further notice. Stations of the Cross for Friday, March 13, at 7:00 p.m., and the Lenten reflection, are also suspended. Archbishop Gregory has granted everyone a dispensation from the obligation of attending weekend Mass during this period.

As the Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith and life, the suspension of Mass is a great sacrifice that we are asked to bear at this time, and a particular one during this season of Lent. Let us all remain united in prayer, and let us pray for healing, especially for our brothers and sisters who are suffering and those who have been affected directly by this virus and the medical professionals who assist them. We encourage you during this time also to reflect on the [Mass readings](#), especially on Sundays, and to make a daily [Spiritual Communion](#).

For Sunday Mass, we encourage your to view the Archdiocesan TV [Mass for Shut-ins](#) or Mass on the EWTN cable channel. [Sunday Mass](#) will also be broadcast from the Basilica of the National Shrine, beginning Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 12noon.

Additionally, ALL parish activities at St. Joseph, including religious education, choir, retreats, parish sponsored trips, and all meetings are also suspended until further notice.

We encourage members of the Saint Joseph Parish Community to do the following:

- Avoid unnecessary physical contact with others
- Wash your hands frequently
- Cover your nose and mouth with a handkerchief when sneezing or coughing
- Do not go to work or gatherings if you feel sick
- Call ahead before going to your doctor or hospital if you feel sick with “flu-like” symptoms
- Visit the Archdiocese of Washington website [here](#) for more information.

We will keep you updated with the latest news.

With faith and trust in God, we remain close to you and wish you good health,

Bishop Campbell and Fr. Boxie