



**OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN**

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URGENT UPDATE FROM THE DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Given the continuing and growing concern about the spread of the COVID-19 virus, Bishop DiMarzio has determined that all public masses be cancelled in the Diocese of Brooklyn beginning Monday, March 16th, until further notice. This includes weekday masses as well as Sunday. Funerals and Weddings will be permitted but should be limited to family members only. Parish baptism celebrations should be limited to family only, if they cannot be postponed. Confirmations should be celebrated with the Rite of Confirmation without Mass, if need be, and in consultation with the Bishop scheduled to celebrate the Confirmation.

The faithful of the diocese are reminded that the Bishop has already issued a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday. The obligation to keep the Lord's Day holy can be fulfilled by maintaining a prayerful attitude and through personal and family prayer.

The faithful are urged to watch the celebration of the Eucharist on TV, as well.

The celebrations are scheduled as follows:

Saturday at 6 pm: Vigil pre-recorded from Immaculate Conception in Jamaica (English)

Sunday at 11 am: Live from St. James Cathedral in Downtown Brooklyn (English)

Sunday at 1:30 pm: Pre-recorded from Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph in Prospect Heights (Spanish)

NET-TV can be seen in the New York City area on Spectrum (Channel 97), Optimum (Channel 30) and FIOS (Channel 48). Viewers can also tune in online at www.netny.tv.

In light of the continuing crisis, the situation is being monitored carefully and updates will follow. Let us continue to pray, especially through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, for those who are sick, for medical personnel and for all people as we confront this challenge.