

111 Boulevard of the Allies Pittsburgh, PA15222

E-mail: communications@diopitt.org www.diopitt.org

Contact:

Ellen Mady (o) 412-456-3129 (c) 412-961-4888

For Release: March 15, 2020

## All Masses in the Diocese of Pittsburgh Cancelled Bishop David Zubik Calls for a Day of Prayer

In light of increasing updates on and concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19), Bishop David Zubik has made the decision to cancel all weekday and Sunday Masses in the Diocese of Pittsburgh effective Monday, March 16, 2020, until further notice. Arrangements are being made to live stream more Masses in the days ahead.

"Although in many ways it saddens me to make this decision, given the best advice from health experts on federal, state, and local levels, I feel it is a necessary one at this time. I'm counting on the understanding and cooperation of all in the Diocese of Pittsburgh as we pray for each other. At this difficult time, we especially are relying on the intercession of Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of the Church, and Saint Joseph, foster father of Jesus and Patron of the Universal Church," Bishop Zubik said.

Bishop Zubik is calling for a special day of prayer in the Diocese of Pittsburgh on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, the Feast of the Annunciation, a great feast of the Blessed Mother. More information will be forthcoming.

Directives about the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Penance, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, as well as appropriate pastoral attention to funerals and weddings will be forthcoming Monday, March 16.