

Coronavirus and the Parish

March 15, 2020

From His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Peace be with all of you! We put our trust and faith in God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. With Jesus with us, we are not afraid, even in danger. I want us to pray for each other and the whole community of Galveston-Houston to do our part to be good agents and citizens and may the prayers of Our Lady of Guadalupe support us.

At this time when the faithful need to maintain some degree of normalcy in the midst of the current health crisis, the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston is recommending that each parish continue to maintain their regular Mass schedules for all those who wish to participate, though the obligation to attend Mass is being dispensed until further notice.

The following individuals are asked to remain at home and not attend Mass:

- If you are currently ill;
- If you are suffering from a chronic health condition;
- If your immune system is compromised;
- If you are over the age of 60; or
- If you are uncomfortable attending Sunday Mass due to concerns over the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Actions the Parish is Taking

What is Not Changing.

- Mass schedule and the practice of communion on the tongue. Anyone uncomfortable with communion on the tongue may choose spiritual communion. Faithful who stay home should keep Sunday holy and perhaps say extra prayers or a rosary as a family.
- Liturgical-related and spiritual activities of the parish, including the Way of the Cross on Fridays in Lent, Eucharistic adoration on Wednesdays, Vespers on Sunday, Recollections, etc.
- Confirmation will be Mar. 21. Please limit guests. Seating restricted to 250 at Chancery's request.

CCD and Tower of David (TOD) instruction are suspended until further notice, effective this Sunday, Mar. 15. Parents have been notified.

Other Groups and Activities

- Each group will meet with its members to decide the best course of action, given their attendees and risk factors. Please check the bulletin and website for updates for changes to schedules, if any.
- Fish Fry Fridays are tentatively planned to continue, depending upon attendance and other factors.

If you feel uncomfortable about assisting at any activity, please do not feel obligated to attend; rather, be safe and stay home.

In union of prayers,

Rev. Charles Van Vliet, FSSP
Pastor, Regina Caeli Parish