



# CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN

## Bulletin Announcement – March 7/8, 2020

### Coronavirus/Flu Concerns

In response to concerns about the Coronavirus and flu, Bishop Murry is instructing that the following prudent steps and liturgical adaptations be implemented beginning this weekend. These are temporary measures that will be reviewed before Holy Week:

1. If you are sick, do not come to Mass. Mass can be watched on television until you are restored to health.
2. Cover your mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or cough/sneeze into your elbow.
3. Use hand sanitizer if you cough or sneeze at any time.
4. Exchange the sign of peace by simply bowing to those around you and say *“Peace be with you,”* without shaking hands.
5. All ministers of Holy Communion must use hand sanitizer before distributing Holy Communion.
6. The distribution of the Precious Blood from the cup is temporarily suspended with the exception of those who must receive the cup due to severe cases of celiac disease.
7. Consider receiving Holy Communion in the hand. For those still desiring to receive on the tongue, make every effort not to come in contact with the minister’s hand or fingers.
8. Intinction (*the practice of dipping the host into the wine*) is not to be utilized as a means of distributing Holy Communion.
9. Holy Water fonts are to be drained, cleaned, and disinfected regularly. Small personal bottles of Holy Water can be made available.

Both the Coronavirus and flu are serious health hazards. Everyone has the responsibility to take common sense steps to prevent the spread of these diseases. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Directive from Bishop George V. Murry, S.J.  
Diocese of Youngstown