

Date: June 24, 2020

From: Diocese of Sacramento

Subject: Additional Instructions for the Various Lay Ministers and Other Parish Volunteers During the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Ministry to the Homebound Visitation Instructions

1. Ministers to the homebound are not to do any visits if they are exhibiting any COVID-19 infection symptoms.
2. They are to refrain from visiting parishioners or residents of care homes, health and rehab facilities that have incidents of COVID-19 infections.
3. Those who fall in the vulnerable category, i.e. individuals age 65+ and persons with compromised health conditions, are asked to continue with the shelter-in-place ordinances instituted by state and local authorities. This also applies for priests, deacons, and ministers who are in the same vulnerable categories.
4. Ministers must wear masks, sanitize properly, maintain physical distance as much as possible, and wear Personal Protective Equipment when required for visit.
5. Visits to the homebound must be limited to the distribution of Holy Communion and not unduly prolonged. Consider phone calls and other forms of communication to maintain connection with the homebound.
6. Refer to the special instruction sheet for how to receive the Holy Eucharist at Mass for your homebound visit.
7. Family members who wish to bring Holy Communion to their family members or friends who are in the vulnerable category may approach the pastor to receive permission and instruction.
 - a. Note: At St Clare, if a family member wishes to bring Holy Communion to their family member or friends who are in the vulnerable category, we will provide them with a pyx (we will request a \$15.00 donation for the pyx with burse) and instructions. We will take their information and put them in contact with a homebound minister to bring them Holy Communion in the future if needed.
 - b. If you are not attending Mass, you may come after Mass to request that a Deacon or Lead EMHC fill your Pyx with Consecrated Host/s. Follow the Outdoor Mass Procedures.