



The Basilica of Saint Mary Response to the Coronavirus For those Participating in our Liturgical Celebrations

When you feel ill, or someone in your home is sick, please stay home. Your Sunday obligation does not hold in case of illness. While at home feel free to pray for our community and for all those who are sick.

Holy Water will not be available in the usual places at this time. If you are in need of Holy Water we have a closed Holy Water tank in the sacristy.

We invite you to make use of the hand sanitizing stations that are available throughout The Basilica. We also encourage you to bring your own hand sanitizer so you can use it before receiving Holy Communion or after coughing or sneezing.

Please don't feel obliged to use physical contact when greeting people upon arrival at church or during the Sign of Peace. A friendly nod with the head or a smile are equally effective in communicating your greeting of peace.

During the Lord's Prayer, please refrain from holding hands. The fact that we all pray the Lord's Prayer together is in itself a sign of our deep unity in Christ.

When receiving Holy Communion please receive the Precious Body reverently in your hand. At this time we discourage reception on the tongue. While the likelihood of spreading germs or viruses while receiving the cup is very small, if you feel ill or have flu-like symptoms please refrain from receiving the Precious Blood. If you do not prefer to receive Holy Communion at all you may come forward and receive a blessing. Just present yourself to the Minister of Holy Communion with your hands folded across your chest. We have asked our Ministers of Holy Communion to use hand sanitizer before distributing Holy Communion.

We invite everyone to pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus or any other illness.