

New Liturgical Procedures

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, we will be implementing new procedures for Mass.

Starting immediately, we will no longer have the cup available for Distribution of Holy Communion. It is unfortunate to have to withhold the Blood of Christ from communicants, but the full Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ is completely contained in both species. Therefore, we are in no way being deprived of the fullness of Communion with God in Jesus. For Holy Communion we will have four stations for Distribution of the consecrated Hosts. The first three scheduled Eucharistic Ministers will be needed. The other two should be prepared to serve as alternates, if necessary .

During the Our Father, please do not hold hands any longer. It is most proper to simply fold one's hands in prayer. It is permissible to extend hands towards heaven, (like the priest).

Also, we will be removing the Holy Water fonts from the entrances.

Please be respectful of others feelings at this time, especially during the Sign of Peace. Thank you so much for your kind consideration of these changes. Below are the suggestions issued by the Diocese of Pueblo. Please read them and implement as appropriate.

SUGGESTED DIOCESE OF PUEBLO DIRECTIVES REGARDING LITURGICAL PRACTICES DURING THE 2020 CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

- ☐ **SIGN OF PEACE**—During the Sign of Peace, instead of shaking hands or hugging, as is practiced in some parishes, it would be best to simply nod your head and avoid bodily contact.
- ☐ **THE OUR FATHER**—When praying the Our Father, please do not hold hands. Simply extend your hands toward Heaven or fold your hands.
- ☐ **HOLY COMMUNION**—Holy Communion to the Faithful can be limited to one Species, except for the presider and concelebrants. Just the Consecrated Host may be distributed to the faithful, including those in the permanent diaconate.
- ☐ **RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION**—The presider of any Mass in the Diocese of Pueblo is to encourage the reception of Holy Communion in the hand. PLEASE NOTE: this directive is aimed at limiting contact with saliva, thus limiting the possible spread of the disease.
- ☐ **EXTRAORDINARY and ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**—Ministers of Holy Communion (ordained or lay faithful) should apply antibacterial sanitizer to their hands prior to the distribution of Holy Communion and should also disinfect their hands after Communion distribution. It is important to note that after cleaning your hands, you should not touch your face.
- ☐ **OTHER**—Priests are to encourage parishioners who are sick, sneezing or coughing to stay home. Parishioners are welcome to take advantage of the Sunday televised or radio broadcast Masses which are available in English or in Spanish. It is not a sin to miss Mass on Sundays, if you are ill. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, *“the Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason, the Faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin CCC 2181.”*