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Updated: March 13, 2020

Directives to Help Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Diocese of Las Cruces has issued the following directives to be implemented in parishes to help prevent the spreading of COVID-19.

- Suspension of the minor chalices used for the distribution of the Precious Blood, except in cases of a pastoral need as determined by the pastor (i.e. Gluten Intolerance)
- Sanitize all sacred vessels before Mass
- Suspension of the communal Sign of Peace
- Suspension of holding hands during the recitation of the Our Father
- Emptying the holy water fonts
- Use of hand sanitizer by the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion before and after the distribution of the Host
- Suspension of any physical greeting of parishioners by the celebrant before or after the Mass

Any Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion who feels uncomfortable distributing Communion should be allowed to step down from ministry temporarily. All persons should be strongly encouraged to stay home if they are ill, elderly or if they have compromised immune systems.

Please visit the CDC website for the latest updates on COVID- 19
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Other information is available at:
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
<http://cv.nmhealth.org/>