



**From:** Vicar General

**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2020 10:39 AM

**Subject:** Suspension of Public Celebration of Mass; Temporary Closure of Archdiocesan Schools, Pastoral Center, Related Agencies

Based on current guidelines from local public health departments, which recommend the cancellation of public gatherings involving 250 or more people, Cardinal Cupich mandated the suspension until further notice of all liturgical services effective Saturday with the regularly scheduled weekend services. In addition, he has mandated the closing of schools operated by the archdiocese, and to close the Pastoral Center and related agency offices until further notice.

“This was not a decision I made lightly,” said Cardinal Cupich. “The Eucharist is the source and summit of our life as Catholics. And our schools and agencies provide essential services to many thousands across Cook and Lake Counties. But, in consultation with leaders from across the archdiocese, for the sake of the safety of our students, parishioners, and all the women and men who serve the people of the archdiocese, it is clear that we must take the better part of caution in order to slow the spread of this pandemic.”

### **Parish and Sacramental Practice**

While public Mass will be suspended **beginning Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**.

Televised and online Masses provide opportunities for the faithful to remain connected in some way to the Sacrifice of the Mass during this difficult time.

**Additional guidance** will be forthcoming from the Office of the Vicar General on the administration and celebration of other sacraments.



**Sundays 9:30am**

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