

3/9:

As we begin this week after our spring break, the outbreak of coronavirus is still very much in the news. While there are currently few reports of incidences in our area, it is important to take certain precautions. Most of these are common sense: cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Wash your hands on a regular basis as needed. If you are feeling like you have a flu or a cold, take responsibility by self-isolating temporarily, avoiding others until you feel better. (Please let others know if you are ill also). For more recent and detailed guidelines for prevention please go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html>.

In terms of our eucharistic celebrations use your common sense. The sign of peace is an important part of the ritual of the Holy Mass, so if you are feeling ill or uneasy, and you don't want to shake hands, make a gesture that acknowledges the dignity of the other person and conveys peace. Otherwise make the usual gesture.

In terms of drinking from the cup, if you have a cold or are feeling ill, refrain from drinking. In terms of communion on the tongue I ask you to consider refraining from receiving on the tongue for the next couple of weeks to minimize the risk of infection, until we hear that the outbreak is no longer a danger. However, you will not be refused communion in this way.

For the liturgical guidelines from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, please go to <https://www.archmil.org/News-2.0/Liturgical--Pastoral-Suggestions-in-the-Event-of-a-Viral-Outbreak.htm>.

During this time, you are invited to gather for the Angelus at noon but if you wish to absent yourself because of health concerns please feel free to do so.

Your health and safety are important to us. Be assured that we will continue to monitor the situation. We will also take the necessary precautions as warranted and inform you of any changes when appropriate. Thank you for your cooperation.

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