



In response to Governor Wolf's temporary COVID-19 mitigation efforts announced on Thursday, December 10, Bishop Zubik has made the following announcements:

- 1. The number of people admitted to Mass remains the same. The guidelines regarding celebration of the Sacraments remain status quo as well.** The health and safety protocols we have in place for worship in our churches are not impacted by the new state regulations. No new directives are needed but it is absolutely critical that we must all follow our protocols so that we can keep our churches open. **(In the Shrines of Pittsburgh, the capacity of the churches for the celebration of the Sacraments is limited to 25%).**
- 2. Masks or other appropriate face-coverings are required indoors.** All clergy and lay ministers—organists, instrumentalists, singers, cantors, readers, altar servers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, sacristans, ushers—must wear masks at all times during Mass.
- 3. Clergy, staff and volunteers should work from home wherever possible.**
- 4. All parish meetings, including those of ministry groups, must be held online.**
- 5. Urge anyone who feels ill, is older than 64 or has health issues, to stay home.**
- 6. Everyone must sit at least six feet apart, unless they are members of the same household.**
- 7. No one may stand or sit in the aisles or the back of the church.**
- 8. Everyone involved in distribution of Holy Communion must use hand sanitizer conspicuously**
- 9. Sanitizing of the church must continue between Masses.**

We will continue to follow these practices, as we have been, in the Shrines of Pittsburgh. In addition, we are asking everyone who desires to attend Holy Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to register on our website at [www.pghshrines.org/sign-up](http://www.pghshrines.org/sign-up).

May God bless you and keep you safe!