

TO: ARCHDIOCESE OF PGH AND WPA (OCA) CLERGY/LAITY
FROM: ARCHPRIEST WILLIAM J. EVANSKY, CHANCELLOR
SUBJECT: UPDATE - COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Attached to this update is the latest official information concerning our situation in dealing with COVID-19 as approved by the O.C.A. Holy Synod of Bishops and the Metropolitan Council.

Additionally, Archbishop MELCHISEDEK states that his directives concerning services/activities in each of our diocesan parishes as outlined in my March 17, 2020, policy statement, along with a clarification I sent specifically to the parish priests on March 25, 2020, remains unchanged for the moment. However, you can expect an updated policy statement from me in the coming days in time to permit sufficient local planning. His Eminence (and the Holy Synod of Bishops) realizes the extreme importance of this portion of the liturgical year that is quickly coming upon us. He expects to give guidance concerning how each parish can hopefully still observe a portion of the period in at least some limited way while carefully adhering to the health guidelines issued by the federal, state, and local governments/health agencies.

Finally, His Eminence realizes this is a MOST difficult time for the parishes because of the mandated suspension of services/activities. The parishes may have received the April assessment invoices recently from the chancery. While it is hoped that parishes not experiencing immediate fiscal issues will continue to forward the assessment amount, any parish having a cash flow problem should contact me at this email address or call my Ambridge parish office (724-266-5009) to discuss this emergency (yet hopefully SHORT) situation.

Please share this information promptly among the faithful locally as possible.

May the Lord continue to protect you during this crisis! Let us continue to pray for each other, "with all of our soul and all of our mind!"

Thank you.

With concern in Christ,
Fr. Bill

Archpriest William J. Evansky
Chancellor

Archdiocese of PGH and WPA (OCA)

Chancery Office: 724-776-5555

Ambridge Parish Office: 724-266-5009