



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Office of Communications • *The Long Island Catholic* • *Fe Fuerza Vida*

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DATE: April 3, 2020
RE: DRVC Announcement Update
FROM: Sean P. Dolan, Director of Communications

Note: This information was sent to all priests.

Law of Abstinence. To assist the Faithful that may be struggling during this crisis, Bishop Barres has issued a general dispensation from the law of abstinence (refraining from eating meat) for Good Friday 2020. All are reminded however, that Good Friday remains a day of fasting and penance.

Palm Sunday. Palms should be blessed privately in the parish churches on Palm Sunday, but they must be saved to be distributed at a later date. Palms may not be made available to people for pickup at this time, as this presents an opportunity for gatherings of people and the potential transmission of infection.

Confession. Confessions may not be advertised or scheduled. However, confession can be conducted when urgently needed and when requested on a case-by-case basis. Please observe the safety precautions outlined in previous memos.

Spiritual Communion. The Faithful are encouraged to unite themselves to the Lord Jesus and to each other in "Spiritual Communion", which is part of the rich history of the Church's teachings. When the Faithful cannot access the Sacraments, especially the Body and Blood of Christ present in the Eucharist, they purify their hearts and ask God to allow them to be united with Him spiritually.