

SPECIAL NOTIFICATION REGARDING COVID-19 CASE
Catholic Parishes of South Washington County

Dear Parishioners,

During the ongoing pandemic, our parish has worked to keep the wellbeing of our parish community at the center of all our planning and decisions. As challenging as these times are, we are committed to proper safety measures, transparent communication, and responsibly adapting to emerging circumstances.

It has come to our attention that an individual in attendance at 8:30 am mass on January 10, 2021, has tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19). Our parish has reached out to this individual and understands that they are currently in non-critical condition that they are engaging appropriate quarantining. In accordance with the safety precautions required by the parish, the individual remained socially distanced from other parishioners and was wearing a facemask while in attendance at Mass. Our parish leadership has been in communication with Archdiocesan officials to ensure that all necessary follow-up procedures are undertaken in an efficient manner.

We encourage those who attended the 8:30 am mass on January 10, especially those who fall into a vulnerable category and are at greater risk for exposure to COVID-19, to actively monitor your health and be alert to any of the major symptoms of the virus, including, but not limited to, fever, cough, sore throat, and shortness of breath. Should any concerning symptoms appear, please do not hesitate to contact your medical professional or, if severe, call 911. Should you or a member of your household who were at the 8:30 am mass receive a positive coronavirus test, please alert the parish office at (301) 797-9445, so that appropriate action can be taken.

We recognize that this news may generate concern, anxiety, and hesitation for our parishioners, even those who may not have attended this specific Mass. We have contacted any person who may have had close contact with this individual. We encourage everyone to wisely assess their own personal situation and to make decisions that will protect the health of all involved. The coronavirus remains a significant public health risk, and each of us has a responsibility to act safely based upon the most current information on hand. Once more, please recall that the Archbishop has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. We ask that our parish community continue to hold in prayer and solidarity all those suffering with COVID-19, most particularly those within our community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Fr. John Jicha

Pastor

Cc: Archdiocese of Baltimore Office of Risk Management