



Office of the Bishop

## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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March 1, 2020

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

As we all know, the corona virus seems to be becoming a world-wide threat for which there is no vaccination or cure available. Moreover, since it seems that it is present in the body for a long time before symptoms appear, it will be very difficult to prevent its spread. As always, persons who feel ill should not come to Mass. The following may be helpful and so I am asking for these temporary modifications to be implemented in our diocese as soon as possible:

- Reception of Eucharist at Mass in the hand rather than on the tongue except in the Latin Masses for whom reception on the hand is not an option.
- Temporarily discontinuing the distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass.
- Forgoing the holding of hands at the Lord's Prayer.
- A bow for the Sign of Peace in place of handshaking.

Let us pray for all of those who are already affected by this virus, especially for those with compromised immune systems who are most at risk.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock