

Diocese of Lincoln Statement Coronavirus (COVID-19) March 16, 2020

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Due to the new COVID-19 limitations in place today from our local, state, and national governments, effective immediately, all public Masses and communal celebration of the sacraments or other liturgies are indefinitely suspended in the Diocese of Lincoln.

Priests should still offer the Mass privately, and pastors and administrators must especially offer the Sunday Pro Populo (for all people of the parish) Mass. Further guidance will be given to parishes and diocesan institutions during this time of crisis and uncertainty.

We should continue to pray for one another during these trying times. Catholics and all people should use this opportunity to devote time for prayer and spiritual renewal. This may include meditating on Sacred Scripture, observing Mass on television or the internet, praying a rosary, or other spiritual practices. A reminder that a Mass for shut-ins is televised every Sunday in the Lincoln area on KLKN-TV at 9:00 a.m. and in the Hastings area on KSNB-TV at 9:30 a.m.

Our administrative team continues to meet daily to review community developments and determine plans in the best interests of St. Michael parishioners to keep us all physically and spiritually healthy. We will continue sharing updates as they arise. We're exploring possibilities for live streaming Masses and developing remote faith formation opportunities. Stay tuned.

I pray this time of uncertainty can lead us to even greater spiritual unity as a community of believers. Let us pray for healing, wisdom, and courage during this challenging time—remembering, especially, those who are ill and their caregivers, medical professionals, government and civic leaders, business owners, and all decision makers.

And let us pray for one another, knowing with great confidence that God is with us.