

# What Colorado Catholics need to know about the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Currently, the risk to most Coloradans from COVID-19 is LOW, but it is still important for us to take simple steps within our parishes, schools and offices to help prevent the spread of any viruses and bacterial illnesses. The Archdiocese of Denver is also actively preparing in the event that COVID-19 does spread to Colorado and additional preventative measures become necessary.

## INDIVIDUALS



- Be respectful of others by not contributing to the spread of viruses:
  - » If you are sick, stay home.
  - » Don't return until you are fever and symptom free for 24 hours.
  - » Avoid contact with others.
  - » Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough.
- Take steps to stay healthy:
  - » Regularly wash your hands with soap and hot water.
  - » Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
  - » Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Educate yourself on the coronavirus.

More resources available at [archden.org/coronavirus](https://archden.org/coronavirus)

## HOLY MASS



- All Eucharistic Ministers must sanitize their hands prior to the distribution of Holy Communion.
- Ensure all vessels used at Mass, once purified, are thoroughly washed with soap and hot water after each use.
- Make parish or bulletin announcement encouraging best health practices.
  - » Explain to parishioners when the Church allows for you to miss Mass.
  - » Catechism 2181 allows for serious reasons like illness.
- Additional voluntary measures include avoiding the holy water font, avoiding drinking from the chalice, and avoiding physical touch during the liturgy.

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## PARISHES / SCHOOLS



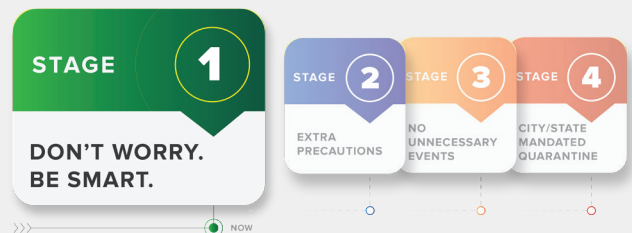
- Encourage employees to stay home if they are sick.
- Encourage parents to keep sick children at home.
- Provide plenty of hand sanitizer and cleaning wipes throughout your offices and rooms.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Begin planning for how to operate if there are extended absences.
- Consider posting information signs.

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## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



We are in phase 1, a purely preventative and precautionary stage at this point. If the situation changes, we will begin to implement additional steps and protocols.



Stay informed at [archden.org/coronavirus](https://archden.org/coronavirus)