



**Catholic Archdiocese of
Canberra & Goulburn**

Updated Diocesan Protocols **COVID-19 CoronaVirus**

Protocols Effective Immediately

From Midday Monday 23 March 2020, the Federal Government has decreed that places of worship are to close.

There is to be no public celebration of Mass in the Diocese.

Churches will remain open for private prayer.

There are to be no prayer gatherings – Rosary, Stations of the Cross, parish prayer groups, in our Churches, etc.

There are to be no catechetical or spiritual gatherings in Church.

Daily Mass is available on the *Catholic Voice* website online from 6am each day.

Additional resources for personal and family prayer are available on the *Catholic Voice* website.

Visit: www.catholicvoice.org.au

Updated Archdiocesan Protocols

Eucharist

1. No public Masses are to be celebrated.
2. No Communion to the sick in hospital, aged care homes or private homes to people who have COVID 19.

Visits to Sick and Elderly People

3. Encouraged in private homes if they are not in isolation.
4. Visits to hospitals and aged care facilities are discouraged, except for immediate family.

Anointing of the Sick

1. All priests to use *Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)*, i.e., **gown, gloves, mask, goggles** to attend patients in hospitals, aged care homes and private homes who have COVID 19:



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<https://utmb.ensemblevideo.com/hapi/v1/contents/permalinks/Nk9n7Q6H/view>

2. Laying on of hands above the head.
3. Oil of the Sick administered only with gloves, using cotton buds/swabs.

Funerals and Weddings

5. Funerals for immediate family only.
6. Weddings for immediate family only.

Baptism

7. Baptisms for immediate family only.
8. Celebrant to administer the oil of catechumen and oil of Chrism with cotton buds/swabs.
9. Ensure proper sanitisation before and after baptism.

Penance

10. First rite of penance should be conducted in the confessional behind a screen or only if the penitent is 1.5metres away from the priest. If the penitent is under 18, confessional door is to be open.
11. Second rite of penance is suspended.

First Penance, First Holy Communion & Confirmation

12. Suspended until further notice.

Holy Week

Protocols to follow.

Father Anthony Percy VG
23 March 2020