

Dear My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the last 10 days, we have all experienced new challenges in our day-to-day life. The advent of COVID-19 has caused a great deal of pain and anguish as we adapt to this new normal. To ensure the protection of the Catholic faithful and the community as a whole, I have decided along with the recommendation of the College of Consultors to suspend all Masses until further notice. However, we will continue to livestream Masses, including those that will be offered during Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

This is a serious virus that continues to spread across our state that we must take seriously. By continuing our efforts to bring Mass into people's homes, we can safeguard everyone's health while still providing the faithful an opportunity to participate in Holy Week and Easter Sunday Masses. I know this is difficult news to hear during this challenging time.

The Diocese will livestream Holy Week and Easter Sunday Masses from the Chapel of the Holy Family at our Pastoral Center during the following days and times at [facebook.com/DioceseChas](https://www.facebook.com/DioceseChas) and [YouTube.com/DioceseChas](https://www.youtube.com/DioceseChas):

Palm Sunday, April 5

- Mass in English at 11:00 a.m.
- Mass in Spanish at 12:30 p.m.

Monday, April 6

- Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 7

- Chrism Mass at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 8

- Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Holy Thursday, April 9

- Liturgy of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 10

- Liturgy at 3:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil, April 11

- Mass at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12

- Mass in English at 11:00 a.m.
- Mass in Spanish at 12:30 p.m.

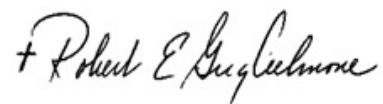
Additionally, all the faithful are dispensed from Fast and Abstinence for the duration of Lent, except for Good Friday.

During this time of great uncertainty, we pray that the Church in its response will provide comfort to those isolated in their homes and away from their loved ones.

We will update our special COVID-19 webpage on the diocesan website as needed. I also ask that you stay in touch with your parish by following their social media pages.

My dear friends, this is a time where our beliefs are an asset and a true blessing. We need look no further than the Resurrection to find the ultimate story of faith, hope and love. May we all continue to invite Christ into our hearts, even as they ache. Take this remaining time in Lent to embrace the works of mercy with zeal. Practice a spirit of gratitude and generosity to others, albeit remotely. Remain hopeful, pray unceasingly, and be assured of my prayers for you and your families.

In the Lord's Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert E. Guglielmo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmo

Bishop of Charleston