



Memorandum for Distribution

From: Chancery, Diocese of Gallup

To: Pastors, Administrators and other leaders of the faithful

Date/Time: March 16, 2020 at 1:30 PM MDST

Subject: Health Update

This message is our health update for March 16, 2020.

Arizona School Closures

Following the lead of the Arizona State government, all Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Gallup in Arizona will close at the end of the school day today, March 16, 2020 and remain closed through Friday, March 27.

Those Catholic Schools that fall in the territory of the Navajo Nation will extend an additional week, through April 3, following the lead of the President Jonathan Nez's executive order that calls for all schools under his jurisdiction to close for at least three weeks.

As with our Catholic schools in New Mexico, please check and follow CDC guidelines regarding the cleaning and disinfecting of school buildings and equipment to ensure the safe return of students and teachers.

Regarding large gatherings in Arizona

The State of Arizona is recommending against public gatherings of 50 or more people. Pastors and administrators of our parishes in Arizona may wish to cancel or postpone any large non-liturgical church events likely to draw more than 50 people.

Regarding Confirmations

Confirmations will continue as scheduled with appropriate precautions, unless further restrictions are required due to a change in the status of the perceived public health threat of the virus.

Prayer for the Day

“Heal me, Lord, that I may be healed; save me, that I may be saved, for you are my praise”
(Jeremiah 17:14).

Our Lady of Good Health, pray for us! Amen.

Respectfully,

Dcn. Randolph Copeland
Chancellor
Diocese of Gallup