



Important Update from *Cardinal Tobin*

March 25, 2020

I pray that you are doing well in light of these challenging circumstances. Should you or someone you know need some assistance, please reach out to us immediately by calling the parish office 908-277-3700 or via email at office@stteresaavila.org.

- Fr Bob

We have received the following update today from Cardinal Tobin for the ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark:

NEW DIRECTIVES

effective March 25, 2020:

- **Wakes and funerals must be postponed until further notice.** There are no exceptions to this, regardless of the size of the group. Burials may take place with only the priest.
- **All baptisms must be postponed** until further notice with the exception of an extreme emergency.
- **All weddings are postponed** until further notice.
- **The Sacrament of Reconciliation is suspended** until further notice with the exception of an extreme emergency.
- **All churches and adoration chapels must be closed and locked until further notice.** Private prayer in any parish building must be discontinued until further notice.
- **Parish offices must be closed until further notice.** Employees who provide essential services should be limited and on staggered

The following directives REMAIN IN FORCE

since March 18, 2020:

- **All public celebrations of daily and Sunday Mass suspended** until further notice.
- **All public celebrations of the Sacraments and other public forms of worship suspended until further notice.** This includes, but is not limited to, previously scheduled Confirmations, celebrations of First Communion, penitential services, Communion services, and Liturgies of the Word.
- **Anointing of the Sick:** A priest may anoint the sick with the necessary precautions.
- **Celebrations of Mass should continue** via live-streaming.
- **Catholic Schools remain closed** as directed by the State of New Jersey.
- **All Archdiocese of Newark Catechetical education and events sponsored by the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) are suspended.**

Anyone who has had direct exposure or potential exposure to COVID-19 is advised to carefully follow the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding isolation and quarantine protocols.

We encourage you to continue to visit www.covid19.nj.gov for accurate and updated information available to the residents of New Jersey. Also, please monitor our website at www.rcan.org/covid-19 and follow the Archdiocese of Newark's social media channels [@NwkArchdiocese](https://twitter.com/NwkArchdiocese) for archdiocesan related announcements.

We continue to keep all affected individuals, families, first responders, and especially those on the front lines in our prayers throughout the coming days.

*Stay connected with
us on social media!*

