



**Catholic Archdiocese of
Canberra & Goulburn**

Archdiocesan Protocols
RE: The CoronaVirus (COVID-19)

The Archdiocese has received advice from medical experts that we should employ best *practice* and be *prudent* in trying to help reduce the transmission of the *CoronaVirus (COVID-19)*.

Upon reception of this letter, all communities, parishes, schools, hospitals, etc. are asked to observe the following *protocols*, with appropriate instructions given to the faithful, until further notice:

1. Remove Holy Water from fonts.
2. Ask the faithful to acknowledge each other at the sign of peace, but refrain from touching.
3. Priests, Deacons, Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to use hand sanitiser **before** distributing Holy Communion and **after** distributing Holy Communion at Mass, Liturgy of the Word's with Holy Communion, Visits to the sick in Hospital and Home.
4. Instruct the faithful that Holy Communion should be received only in the hand, **not** on the tongue.
5. Distribute the Sacred Host only and **not** the Precious Blood.

Yours in Christ,
Father Anthony Percy VG
4 March 2020