

MOST REV. DANIEL R. JENKY, C.S.C.  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP  
DIOCESE OF PEORIA



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP  
419 N.E. MADISON AVENUE  
PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61603  
PHONE: 309 671 1550  
FAX: 309 671 1576

March 11, 2018  
+Laetare Sunday

To the Clergy of the Diocese of Peoria:

Dear Monsignors, Fathers and Deacons;

According to many medical experts, our nation is finally “on the mend” after a particularly serious flu season. I am happy to encourage pastors to return to normal liturgical practice, including the Sign of Peace and the distribution of the Precious Blood.

As always, I encourage pastors and people to be prudent. Sacred Vessels should regularly be washed in soap and water after ritual purification. Those who are ill should be encouraged to stay home. A good hand-washing is the best way to prevent the spread of germs. Prudence also reminds us that the faithful shouldn't be afraid to gather for Worship for fear of illness. Shopping carts, movie theaters and gas pumps likely pose a greater health risk than attending Mass.

The coming Holy Days also provide a great opportunity for pastors to once again teach about the spiritual significance of the Kiss of Peace; the careful and reverent reception of Holy Communion in the hand or on the tongue; and the reception of the Precious Blood as a fuller sign of Eucharistic Communion.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel R. Jenky C.S.C." with a small cross at the beginning.

✠Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.  
BISHOP OF PEORIA