

On July 28, 2020, Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian notified the parishioners that a priest was confirmed to have COVID-19. On July 29, 2020, the DC Contact Trace Force and DC Health Epidemiologists began their outreach to collect additional information. Based on the information we have gathered, DC Health would like to share some important messages as additional individuals have been identified as having been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 (SARS-CoV2) and will need to follow recommendations for quarantine.

Parishioners who took communion at the church during the services listed below have been identified as being exposed to SARS-CoV-2 and should quarantine for 14 days from the last date of potential exposure. These exposures occurred on:

- *Saturday, July 25 at 4:30 pm*
- *Sunday, July 26 at 8:00 am, 11:00 am, and 7:00 pm*
- *Monday, July 27 at morning mass*

Persons who participated in communion at these services should take the following precautions:

- Separate yourself from other people (self-quarantine) as much as possible at your home for 14 days from the last time you took communion at one of these events.
- Avoid leaving the house except for essential medical care.
- Do not leave home to go to work or school.
- Do not take public transportation (e.g., Metro buses or trains) and do not use taxis or rideshare services.
- Prohibit visitors who do not have an essential need to be in the home.

For more information, please refer to the following guidance: [Guidance for contacts of person confirmed with COVID-19](#). If you have additional questions about your health, please contact your healthcare provider. If you have a medical emergency, please call 911. Be sure to let them know about your exposure to a confirmed COVID-19 case.

If you have any questions or concerns about this matter, please contact DC Health by sending an email to coronavirus@dc.gov. Please use “Church Contact” in the subject line of the email to facilitate a timely response. For information on COVID-19 testing in DC, please refer to the following website: coronavirus.dc.gov/testing.

If you choose to be tested for COVID-19 during your quarantine, please note that even if you receive a negative test result, you should continue to quarantine for the remainder of the 14-day quarantine period, as you may become sick with the illness at any point during the quarantine. If you test positive, the period of isolation depends on when you meet the criteria to discontinue isolation:
cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html.

DC Health is continuing to work with church leadership to ensure that the guidance and best practices are followed to minimize the risk of COVID-19 among attendees. Please visit our website coronavirus.dc.gov/healthguidance to learn more about COVID-19 and other resources that may be helpful during self-quarantine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LaQuandra S. Nesbitt".

LaQuandra S. Nesbitt, MD, MPH
Director