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Catholic Diocese of Lexington Adopts Measures for Epidemic Response

LEXINGTON — Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv., has approved a diocesan epidemic response, which has been made available to all parishes, missions, schools and the central administration of the Catholic Diocese of Lexington, in the event of a public health emergency. A March 4 memorandum outlines the response.

“The Catholic Church has people of all ages and backgrounds in our care. It’s especially critical in the event of a public health emergency that we strive to be good neighbors and institute responsible measures that protect our faith communities, schools, the personnel who serve in our institutions and the people served by them,” said Bishop Stowe regarding the adoption of the response measures.

The diocese’s response includes preventive measures currently recommended, as well as various operational responses in the event of a state of emergency. The former include hygiene practices and adherence to the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) specific to a viral or bacterial outbreak. The operational responses address closures, restrictions on professional travel and liturgical recommendations.

The full text of the memorandum of the diocesan epidemic response can be found online: <https://www.cdlex.org/diocese-of-lexington-epidemic-response>

The Catholic Diocese of Lexington covers 50 counties in central and eastern Kentucky and has 58 parishes and missions and 15 Catholic schools.