LITURGICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE YEAR 2020
DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
Addendum (March 31, 2020)

This addendum is meant to correct a point contained in the “Liturgical Guidelines for the Year 2020 Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic” issued on March 24, 2020. Additionally, it extends the dispensation previously granted by Archbishop José H. Gomez from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Lastly, this addendum provides additional information and guidelines regarding the celebrations of Holy Week and the distribution of Holy Oils.

DISPENSATION

• Archbishop José H. Gomez dispenses all the Catholic faithful of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and all Catholics currently in the Archdiocese from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass for the weekends of April 4-5, April 11-12, and April 18-19.

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

• If a priest wishes to expose the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration he should do so for the Faithful via livestream and in the presence of at least two people, namely the priest who exposes the Blessed Sacrament and another minister who may assist the priest (Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside of Mass, n. 86). Please be sure to observe physical distancing.

HOLY WEEK

• Archbishop Gomez will celebrate Palm Sunday Mass at 10:00 AM (English) and will be livestreamed from the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels via the LA Catholics Facebook page, facebook.com/lacatholics. For more information on additional Mass broadcasts on TV and radio visit, lacatholics.org/mass-for-the-homebound.

• The following will also be livestreamed from the Cathedral: Palm Sunday – April 5 at 7:00 AM (Spanish), Chrism Mass – April 6 at 7:00 PM, Mass of the Lord’s Supper – April 9 at 7:00 PM, Passion of the Lord – April 10 at 12:00 PM (English) and 3:00 PM (Spanish), Easter Vigil – April 11 at 8:00 PM.

• Until the new oils blessed or consecrated at the Chrism Mass on April 6 are distributed, the priest may continue using oil blessed or consecrated from 2019. Thereafter, new oils must be used. Please note the liturgical norms prescribed in the Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum, permits the priest to bless oil during the Rite taking care to use olive oil or other oil derived from plants (cf. n. 20, 22, 123).
• The distribution of the oils will be handled differently this year. Since there will be no on-site distribution, parishes are asked to participate in the pre-payment process. The order form (a fillable pdf) is attached. A suggested stipend of $45.00 per oil set is payable to the “Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.” Please complete the form, making sure to include your email or fax information, and return it with your check or credit card information. Upon receipt of the form and payment, a confirmation will be emailed or faxed to you. Distribution of the oils will then be handled by the Regional Offices. The Regional Deacons will be in touch with the parishes with information on each region’s delivery or pick-up procedures.

• The Decree issued on March 25, 2020 from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments indicates that “The Commemoration of the Lord’s Entrance into Jerusalem is to be celebrated within sacred buildings; in Cathedral churches the second form given in the Roman Missal is to be adopted; in parish churches and in other places the third form is to be used.” (cf. In time of Covid-19 (II))

• Nevertheless, if the priest wishes to use the second form, he may do so. However, out of caution for the health of all, he must not distribute the palms nor leave them out for the Faithful to pick up. The blessed palms are to be kept in the parish until further notice.