

## *Summary of Bishop Gruss' Guidelines for Parishes*

***A - Temporary Suspension of All Public Masses.*** I am temporarily suspending all public Masses throughout the Diocese of Saginaw. This action of suspending all public Masses flows from the Catholic Church's essential belief in the preciousness of every human life.

***B - Other Parish Celebrations & meetings.*** All communal Penance Services, public Stations of the Cross, and any unnecessary parish gathering, and meeting be cancelled.

***C - Reconciliation.*** Individual celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated.

***D - Funerals Permitted.*** It is important to mourn with those who have lost loved ones. Therefore, funerals are permitted. **However, the restrictions on numbers of those attending, according to the Governor's mandates, must be adhered to.** People in attendance should sit in a way that respects the social distancing guidelines. If this is not possible, families may consider postponing the funeral or memorial Mass to a later date.

***E - Confirmation / First Eucharist.*** A decision regarding the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will be made in the future, depending upon the situation of this crisis.