

March 12, 2020



## Coronavirus-COVID-19

Out of an abundance of caution, in response to the rapidly changing situation with COVID-19, Malvern Retreat House will be closed from March 13 through April 2nd. Rest assured, there has been no exposure at the Retreat House. We want to support the national and local efforts to stop the spread of the virus. The situation will be continually evaluated.

Malvern Retreat House has monitored the growing concern over the coronavirus. We wanted you to know how we are addressing this very fluid situation. Malvern Retreat House is following the guidelines and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Chester County Health Department in relation to the COVID-19 Virus.

As always, retreatants and guests with health concerns and a compromised immunity, or those who have symptoms of illness or the virus, are asked not to attend retreats, program and events. Retreatants who are showing signs of illness should contact us regarding the rescheduling of a confirmed retreat. We respectfully reserve the right to ask guests to leave a retreat or an event if they are visibly ill.

Malvern Retreat House follows the recommendations from the Chester County Health Department relating to our employee sick leave policy and employees who are ill are not to report to work.

Malvern Retreat House is following the guidelines of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia regarding liturgical practices. You can find the guidelines regarding the reception of Holy Communion and the Sign of Peace [here](#).

Practices in place at Malvern Retreat House include but are not limited to the following:

- We have reviewed and updated protocols and procedures for both dining and housekeeping services and enhanced our cleaning protocols and increased the frequency of cleaning.
- Frequently touched surfaces and objects such as computers, door knobs, desks, and light switches are cleaned regularly.
- Supplies including hand sanitizers, tissues, soap, and cleaning wipes are provided and available throughout the facility.
- Staff and guests are encouraged to practice healthy behaviors (such as staying home when they're sick, covering their coughs and sneezes, washing their hands often, and using hand sanitizer with 60-95% ethyl alcohol).

The Malvern Retreat House team will continue to be updated and follow the directives given by local, state and archdiocesan and federal officials.

We invite all of you to join us in praying – [here](#) you can find the text of the prayer the Holy Father wrote to our Lady for dealing with the coronavirus.

## Helpful Links

[Chester County Health Department](#)

[Centers for Disease Control](#)

[Pennsylvania Health Department](#)