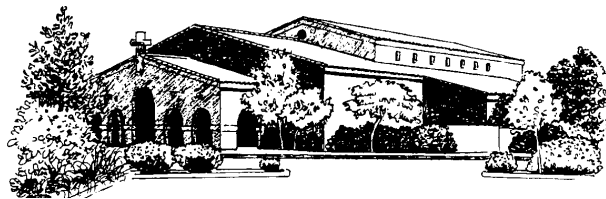


St. John Vianney Catholic Church

539 La Pasada Boulevard • Goodyear, Arizona 85338
Parish (623) 932-3313 • School (623) 932-2434 • Fax (623) 932-1896



May 1, 2009

Dear Parishioners of St. John Vianney,

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you! Like the rest of the world, we are concerned about the H1N1 or “Swine Flu” and are concerned about the health and safety of our parishioners. In response to these concerns, our parish staff has decided to implement the recommendations contained in the guidelines offered by the Diocese of Phoenix for voluntary precautions in this early stage. Thus, we will do the following:

1) Encourage the Faithful who are sick to stay home.

Missing Mass on Sundays and holy days is acceptable for who are contagious with the flu.

2) Distribute Holy Communion under the species of bread alone.

We may receive the fullness of Jesus under the species of bread alone. The distribution of the chalice could be a high risk for contamination and thus is not necessary for the faithful.

3) Invite communicants to receive Holy Communion in the hand.

Reception of Communion on the tongue could inadvertently contaminate the hands of ministers..

4) Eliminate the optional exchange of peace.

The exchange of the Sign of Peace without physical contact would empty the ritual of meaning.

5) Omit the spontaneous gesture of hand-holding during the Our Father.

We will continue with these recommended practices until it is determined that this particular flu virus is no longer a danger. We ask your patience in the meantime. Please pray for healing for those who have been affected by this virus and pray that it does not become a pandemic. May God bless and protect us all from this flu virus.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. John Herman, CSC

“To Know Jesus And To Make Him Known”
“Conocer A Jesús Y Darlo A Conocer”