

## **Statement for the Parishioners of Our Lady of Angels:**

We regret to inform you that one of our priests, Father Leopoldo Vives, has tested positive with COVID-19. Father has authorized us to release his name. First, we ask all our parishioners to pray for Father. Out of prudence at first minor symptoms Father started isolating himself in the evening of Saturday August 29. Fathers Ignacio De Ribera and Juan Espino have not been in close contact during this period and are keeping appropriate distance.

Fr. Álvaro Montero had Covid in the spring, and has authorised to release this information as well. He also has antibodies but, out of an abundance of caution and charity, will be tested again on Saturday September 5. Fr. Marsal, who was in close contact with Fr. Vives 7 days ago, has already being tested, following protocols, and is waiting for results. Both Fr. Montero and Fr. Marsal will step out of public Masses and stay in quarantine until their test results are known. Fathers Juan Espino and Ignacio De Ribera will be celebrating Mass for the parish.

While COVID is serious, most people have mild illnesses and are able to recover at home<sup>[1]</sup>. Father Leopoldo Vives is taking steps in according with the CDC guidelines, "What To Do If You Are Sick." He chose to self-isolate at the rectory for 10 days since he had symptoms.[2] September 9th he will be able to resume normal activities in a safe way.

We are notifying all persons who were in "close contact" with Father Leopoldo Vives over the past few days, and they are encouraged to self-quarantine and monitor for symptoms of COVID in accordance with CDC Guidelines, "What To Do If You Are Sick."<sup>2</sup>

Close contact is defined as being with someone infected at less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes. If you were in close contact with Father Vives (less than 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes), you are encouraged to self-quarantine and monitor for symptoms. If you had incidental contact, you are encouraged to monitor symptoms like everyone should do during this pandemic.

Per CDC guidelines, the church will be cleaned by Saturday, to include all common surfaces such as door handles, light switches, bathrooms, etc.

Moreover, out an abundance of caution, we will cleaning the church office on Monday, September 7.

We conclude, by asking all of you to please pray to Our Lord and Our Lady of Angels for protection from the illness and a safe recovery for those infected.

Enjoy the Labor Weekend. God bless you.

[1] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

[2] Ibid.

[3] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>