CLEANING PROTOCOL

There is a lot of information out on the internet from CDC and others. In all the articles it recommends cleaning and some say sanitizing while others say disinfecting with the term mixed in the same guidelines. It is important to know the difference.

**Cleaning**: removes dust, debris and dirt from a surface by scrubbing, washing and rinsing.

**Sanitizing**: reduces the bacteria identified on the product’s label on surfaces.

**Disinfecting**: destroys or inactivates both the bacteria and viruses identified on the product’s label (like influenza and rhinovirus) on hard, nonporous surfaces.

Remember that you should disinfect, not sanitize, because disinfectants are the only products approved by the EPA to kill viruses on hard surfaces.

Prior to reopening thoroughly clean and disinfect the building and contents.

Do not spray the disinfectant onto the surface. The reason is that doing so can actually lift the virus particles into the air, spreading them onto other surfaces and into the persons breathing space.

All people cleaning the church must use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including gloves, masks, safety glasses or face shields. Gloves should be disposed of after each use.

**HOW TO CLEAN AND DISINFECT**

**Hard Nonporous Surfaces:**

**Clean:**
- Wear disposable gloves to clean and disinfect.
- Clean surfaces using soap and water, then use disinfect.
• Cleaning with soap and water reduces the number of germs, dirt and impurities on the surface. Disinfecting kills germs on the surfaces

• Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.
  o More frequent cleaning and disinfection may be required based on level of use.
  o High touch surfaces include: tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, toilets, faucets, sinks, pews etc.

Disinfect:

• Recommend use of EPA registered disinfectant.

  Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of the product.

  Many products recommend:

  o Keeping surface wet for a period of time (see product label).
  o Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

• Diluted household bleach solutions if appropriate for the surface.
  o Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection, and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. (www.clorox.com has instructions on how to make your own disinfecting solution)

• Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours.
• Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may also be used.

Soft Surfaces: Such as carpet or rugs.

• Disinfect with an EPA registered disinfect for soft surfaces.
• Vacuum as usual.
Once public services resume disinfecting should be done before and after each Mass of the high touch surfaces.