



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DISPENSATION FROM OBLIGATION TO ATTEND MASS ON SUNDAYS AND HOLY DAYS IN DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE TO END ON EVE OF FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – AUGUST 14, 2021

ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK – August 2, 2021 – The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation in the Diocese of Rockville Centre will end on the eve of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: August 14, 2021. This means that the faithful are required to attend Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation Masses beginning on August 14, 2021. This obligation does not apply to those who are ill, those who are confined to their home, a hospital, or nursing facility, or those with serious underlying health conditions. Catholics should consult their pastor with questions about the obligation to attend Mass.

“Without Christ we are condemned to be dominated by everyday weariness, with its worries, and by fear of the future,” said Pope Francis. “The Sunday encounter with the Lord gives us the strength to experience the present with confidence and courage, and to go forth with hope.”

Although the “obligation” to keep the Lord’s Day holy and participate in the Holy Mass is a most serious commandment, it is better understood as a profound act of love. The greatest love the world will ever know is the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross for our salvation. Every Mass is a chance for us to be a part of that Divine love here on earth and to prepare for eternal life with God in Heaven. We should hunger for our Lord’s presence in the Eucharist/Holy Communion and desire to be a part of the Mass every Sunday.

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