



DIOCESE OF WINONA-ROCHESTER
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
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Decree

Due to the grave public health concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 18, 2020, I first issued a decree dispensing all of the faithful within the Diocese of Winona-Rochester from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation, even while recognizing that the more fundamental obligation to keep holy the Lord's Day still remained.

Now, observing that many reliable signs indicate that the most severe phase of the pandemic is drawing to an end;

And with gratitude to the Lord for guiding and accompanying His Church throughout this time of pandemic,

I hereby revoke the dispensation from *CIC* can. 1247 and reimpose the obligation of the faithful to participate, in person, in the celebration of the holy sacrifice of the Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

This decree is effective as of July 1, 2021.

In accord with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (cf. CCC 2181) all the usual factors which may excuse a member of the faithful from attending Mass on days of obligation remain in place. Namely, among other considerations, those who are ordinarily excused from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass include: the sick, their caretakers, and anyone with serious health concerns which necessitates avoiding large public gatherings.

Given on June 3, 2021, in the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota.

+ John M. Quinn
Most Rev. John M. Quinn
Bishop of Winona-Rochester

Andrew Brannon
Vice Chancellor