



Memorandum

Cathedral Square Plaza

OFFICE OF THE DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR

To: Priests and Deacons

From: Reverend Donald P. Oleksiak

Date: 10 May 2020

Re: Coronavirus update – Date for the beginning of public celebration of Mass

As you have already heard, the Bishops of Ohio and I have agreed to begin a soft opening in our respective dioceses, allowing for the public celebration of weekday Mass in order to prepare for the public celebration of the Solemnity of Pentecost. Each diocese will determine the date that would allow sufficient time for pastors and parish staffs to prepare to welcome the faithful back to church keeping in mind and being respectful of the governor's directives relative to this pandemic. To that end, the public celebration of weekday Mass may begin on 25 May 2020 in the Diocese of Cleveland. I have attached guidelines, which may be helpful for you as you prepare to welcome your parishioners back to Mass. In addition, guidelines created by the diocesan liturgy/worship directors of the province will also be available on our diocesan website later this week. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect. The Easter Duty obligation is extended for a period of one year from the end of the Easter Season 2020.

I rely on you to use good pastoral judgement and common sense keeping in mind the cautions and regulations established by health and government leaders of the State of Ohio as you implement these guidelines. Compliance and cooperation with these regulations is expected in order to ensure the safety and health of all people of good will. Please feel free to contact me or any member of the diocesan staff if you have any questions or concerns relative to this memo. Be assured of my continued prayers and support as well as my gratitude for your courage and patience during this pandemic.