

EARL BOYEA

Divina Misericordione et Apostolicæ Sedis Gratia

EPISCOPUS LANSINGENSIS

DECREE

EXTENDING THE DISPENSATION FROM THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS AND OTHER OBLIGATORY HOLY DAYS UNTIL SUNDAY MAY 16, 2021 INCLUSIVE

AS THIS REGION continues to be afflicted with the COVID-19 virus and its complications, again taking into account the gravity of the law from which dispensation is given (can. 90 §§1, 2) and considering anew the spiritual good of the people of God entrusted to my care (can. 87 §1), I decree that the faithful of the Diocese of Lansing are dispensed from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and other Holy Days of Obligation until Sunday, May 16, 2021, inclusive. I likewise express my hope that the following Sunday, May 23, 2021, on which the Church celebrates the great Solemnity of Pentecost, will see the resumption of the Sunday and Holy Day obligation, with due precautions being taken and provisions being made for the most vulnerable. Due to the extended duration of the various dispensations that have preceded the current decree, I also intend to issue a singular precept urging the proper understanding and observance of the universal law regarding this obligation.

As previously provided, the faithful are reminded that while the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is dispensed, all are nevertheless obligated to keep the Lord's day holy (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2168-2195). It is especially recommended to engage in prayer, either personally or as a family (cf. can. 1248 §2), for example, by devoutly following a broadcast of the Sunday Mass by television, internet, or radio. Parishes are

encouraged to continue to use the various means of social communications to maximize accessibility to the faithful.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

With immediate effect.

Given at the Curia in Lansing on this, the third day of February, the memorial of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, in the year of our Lord 2021.

Mr. Michael Andrews
Chancellor

Most Reverend Earl Boyea
Bishop of Lansing