JEFFREY
By Appointment of the Apostolic See
BISHOP OF STEUBENVILLE

Revocation of Dispensation

Whereas, on May 26, 2020, I the undersigned Bishop of Steubenville granted a dispensation from canon 1247’s obligation for the faithful to participate in the celebration of Mass on Sundays and other holy days of obligation due to the coronavirus public health crisis; and

Whereas, the public health situation has stabilized, and the State of Ohio will terminate most of its public health restrictions on June 2, 2021; and

Whereas, the cause for said dispensation has ceased;

Therefore, I hereby decree that the dispensation granted on May 26, 2020, shall cease at the conclusion of the day June 4, 2021. As such, canon 1247’s obligation that “on Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass” shall be in effect again in the Diocese of Steubenville as of June 5, 2021.

Those who have a serious reason are exempt from attending Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2181). This includes those who are ill, have significant health risk factors or care for someone who is immuno-compromised or ill, as well as those who have significant fear or anxiety of contracting the coronavirus in a large group of persons. Nevertheless, these persons should observe the Lord’s Day and are encouraged to spend time in prayer on Sunday, meditating on the Lord’s Passion, Death and Resurrection.

A petition for revocation or emendation of this decree is subject to canons 1732-1739. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery at Steubenville on the 18th day of May in the Year of Our Lord, 2021.

[Signature]
Most Reverend Jeffrey M. Monforton, D.D., S.T.D.
Bishop of Steubenville

[Signature]
Very Reverend Bradley W. Greer, J.C.L.
Chancellor