



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During these difficult months during the pandemic, I have granted a general dispensation from the grave obligation that we as Catholic Christians have to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation in the Archdiocese of Detroit, in part to help ease the conscience of those who are unable to be present for public worship due to risk of illness to themselves or their families. The most recent dispensation expired on November 22nd, at which point we had hoped the pandemic would have eased enough to allow all of us to return in an unrestricted way to our celebrations of the Holy Eucharist.

After careful consideration, I am extending the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation for people living in or visiting the Archdiocese of Detroit until Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021. As we have from the beginning, we will continue to closely monitor the situation in our region, with an eye on the day - hopefully in the not-too-distant future - when all of us are able to safely reunite in our normal patterns of worship.

With assurances of my prayers for you, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit

Christmas Eve / Christmas Day Masses

Due to customarily large demand for Mass attendance and the limited capacity of our churches, dispensation has been granted for Pastors to ask Catholics to attend Mass only ONCE during the four day stretch - Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and both Saturday and Sunday of Holy Family weekend (December 24th - December 27th) - to satisfy their obligations for both Christmas and the Lord's Day.