



*Office of the Bishop  
Diocese of Saint Cloud*

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June 3, 2021

Dear Pastor:

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to subside, the bishops of Minnesota have made the decision together to reinstate the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation in all of our dioceses beginning the weekend of July 3-4.

Please see the accompanying document from the Minnesota Catholic Conference, which explains the importance of attending Mass in person and outlines the circumstances under which Mass attendance will still not be required for the time being. I encourage you to share the document with your parishioners. It will be posted on our diocesan website in the section dedicated to coronavirus updates: [www.stcdio.org/coronavirus-update](http://www.stcdio.org/coronavirus-update).

I ask that you use these next few weeks as a time of invitation and outreach to those who have been away from parish life — some perhaps for as long as a year. It is with great joy that we welcome them back to the celebration of the Eucharist, the source and summit of our faith. At the same time, please be sensitive to those who are still not able to return to Mass and ensure that their pastoral needs continue to be met.

Finally, thank you for everything you have done to create safe spaces for worship during this pandemic. May God continue to bless your ministry in the year ahead.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Donald J. Kettler  
Bishop of Saint Cloud