



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All priest, deacons, and liturgical coordinators
FROM: Father Nicholas Smith
DATE: 9 April 2020
RE: Divine Mercy Indulgence

Many of the faithful have a praiseworthy devotion to Divine Mercy and wish to receive the indulgence established for the feast of Divine Mercy, April 19, 2020.

In light of the current pandemic, Archbishop Carlson has decreed that the faithful of the Archdiocese of St. Louis may gain plenary indulgences while public masses are suspended without actual confession and communion, provided that they have inner contrition and the resolution to go to these sacraments as soon as possible (cf. Norms for Indulgences, n. 28) following the lifting of the current suspension of public masses.

This applies to the indulgence attached to the feast of Divine Mercy, and all other plenary indulgences, for as long as public masses are suspended.

The faithful who cannot pray before the Blessed Sacrament on Divine Mercy Sunday can remember that they, like all the faithful, can gain a plenary indulgence by praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet to "implore from Almighty God the end of the epidemic, relief for those who are afflicted and eternal salvation for those whom the Lord has called to Himself" (Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary March 20, 2020).

As a reminder, in order to obtain a plenary indulgence, the faithful must, in addition to being in a state of grace:

- have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
- have sacramentally confessed their sins;
- receive the Holy Eucharist;
- pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.

Best wishes for a Blessed Triduum and Easter.