



DIOCESE OF DALLAS

June 5, 2020

Priests of the Diocese,

On May 18, 2020, in light of the Coronavirus pandemic, I issued a decree beginning Phase Two of the diocesan opening plan, which provided for weekday Masses to the Faithful once a day; on May 20, 2020, I granted to all pastors and pastoral administrators the faculty to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to their parishioners. As the Diocese continues in its ongoing process of opening, I find it appropriate and necessary to both increase the availability of these weekday Masses as well as extend the faculty the celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation to other priests in the Diocese so that the faithful might be more fully served.

Therefore, effective immediately, **the number of Masses celebrated on weekdays is to be determined by the pastor and is no longer limited to one Mass per day.** Additionally, pastors may, at their discretion, **begin celebrating Saturday morning Masses.** The number of Saturday morning Masses is likewise to be determined by the pastor, but **these Saturday morning Masses are not vigil Masses, and they must take place before 4:00 pm on Saturdays.** All Masses, gatherings, liturgical celebrations and other events may take place at **50% of building capacity**, with all other Gathering and Seating requirements maintained.

Moreover, in addition to all pastors and pastoral administrators of the Diocese of Dallas, **all parochial vicars, rectors and vice rectors, presbyteral members of seminary faculties and chaplains are hereby granted the faculty to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the Faithful until November 28, 2020** (end of Ordinary Time).

Finally, please note that the Presbyteral Council has met to discuss the appropriate date for the beginning of Phase Three, which is to include Sunday Masses, and I look forward to the implementation of that phase in due course. Should you have any additional questions, please contact the Vicar General, who will be able to assist. Let us all continue to pray for the Diocese as we move forward.

Fraternally Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Edward J. Burns".

Most Reverend Edward J. Burns
Bishop of Dallas

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gregory Caridi".

Gregory Caridi
Chancellor