PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA

Prot. N. 243/17/I

DECREE

The APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY, for the increase of religion among the faithful and the salvation of souls, by virtue of the special faculties given by His Holiness, Pope Francis, upon the recent request of His Excellency, the Most Reverend John Douglas Deshotel, Bishop of Lafayette, on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the Diocese, gladly grants a plenary Indulgence from the Church’s heavenly treasury, to be gained on the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, reception of Holy Communion, and prayer according to the intentions of the Holy Father), by the faithful who, truly penitent and motivated by charity, from January 1 through December 31, 2018, visit the Cathedral Church of St. John the Evangelist in pilgrimage and there participate devoutly in the anniversary celebrations, or who at least pray there piously for a fitting period of time, concluding with the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and invoking the Most Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Evangelist. This indulgence may also be applied to the faithful souls in Purgatory by way of suffrage.

The elderly, infirm, and all who for grave cause cannot leave their residence, can likewise gain the plenary Indulgence, if they unite themselves spiritually to the anniversary celebrations, fixing in their minds a hatred for all sin and an intention of fulfilling the three usual conditions, as soon as they are able, offering their prayers and sufferings and the difficulties of their lives to God most merciful.

Since, therefore, access to receiving divine pardon through the keys of the Church more easily comes about by pastoral charity, this Penitentiary earnestly beseeches the diocesan penitentiary, the cathedral clergy, pastors, and priests with the faculty to hear confessions, to offer themselves with a prompt and generous spirit to the celebration of the sacrament of Penance.

The present shall hold valid for the entire Centennial Celebration of Lafayette. Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at Rome, at the Apostolic Penitentiary, on the first day of December, in the year of our Lord 2017.

MAURO Card. Piacenza
Apostolic Penitentiary

KRZYSZTOF NYKIEL
Regent