



# Diocese of Cheyenne

Office of the Bishop

## DECREE

Due to the fact that the public celebration of Masses has been suspended, only private celebrations of Masses are occurring. On Saturdays and Sundays, multiple Masses are normally celebrated with specific intentions, but now only one Mass will be celebrated. As a result, there is a need to combine intentions for a single Mass in order that the intentions may be satisfied. I, therefore, decree the following:

When possible, a separate Mass is to be offered for each intention for which a stipend has been received.<sup>1</sup> Where there is more than one priest assigned to the parish and all the presbyters concelebrate, each presbyter may take and satisfy an intention that is normally done for a separate Mass.<sup>2</sup> If there are still Mass intentions that would have been satisfied if all the scheduled Masses had been celebrated, then the intentions may be combined and satisfied in a single Mass.<sup>3</sup> Unless gravely difficult or impossible, the donors are to be contacted to obtain their approval or given the opportunity for the intention to be rescheduled for a different Mass at a later date.<sup>4</sup>

The presbyter can only keep the offering for one of the Mass intentions, and must give to the Bishop of Cheyenne for deposit in the Clergy Special Health Fund in the Wyoming Catholic Ministries Foundation offerings for the other intentions.<sup>5</sup> If a priest has an intention with no offering connected with it and an intention with an offering connected with it, he may keep the offering for the second intention.<sup>6</sup>

Given in Cheyenne, Wyoming, on March 19, 2020, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Most Rev. Steven R. Biegler, DD, STL  
Bishop of Cheyenne

Jean M. Chrostoski  
Chancellor

<sup>1</sup> *Codex Iuris Canonici Auctoritate Ioannis Pauli PP. II Promulgatus [CIC]* (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1989) c. 948.

<sup>2</sup> See *CIC*, c. 945 §1.

<sup>3</sup> Congregation for the Clergy, decree *Quoad stipendia a sacerdotibus pro Missis celebrandis accipienda regulae quaedam dantur*, February 22, 1991, art. 2.1: *AAS* 83 (1991) 445; *Origins* 20:43, 705; Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, instruction *Redemptionis Sacramentum*, March 25, 2004 (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2004) n. 116.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, art. 3: *AAS* 83 (1991) 445; *Origins* 20:43, 706; *CIC*, cc. 848; 950; 951 §1.

<sup>6</sup> See *CIC*, c. 951.