

Archbishop to Lift the Dispensation to Attend Mass Beginning June 5-6

Archbishop Naumann has chosen the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, the weekend of June 5-6, 2021, as the occasion on which the dispensation from the obligation by the faithful to attend Mass shall be lifted. Beginning with Masses for that weekend, all the Catholic faithful residing within the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas must return to observing the precept of the Church to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Of course, those who suffer from underlying health concerns or compromised immunity, or who have genuinely serious concerns about the risk of contracting the coronavirus are not bound by the obligation to attend Mass.

More information from the Archdiocese on the lifting of the dispensation will follow as we draw closer to the weekend of June 5-6.

Catholics, of course, should always hunger for the Eucharist and long to receive the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion, but especially now, as we begin to depart from restrictions imposed by the pandemic. As the Church solemnly teaches, the Eucharist is the summit of the Church's mission, and is the font from which all her power to serve God is derived. Archbishop Naumann will be writing about our true need for Holy Mass in his column in *The Leaven*, inviting the faithful to communal celebration of the Eucharist in their parishes.

Additionally, and as has always been the case, whether one is obligated to attend Mass or not, we are nonetheless obliged to observe the Third Commandment of our Lord to keep holy the Sabbath. The faithful who are unable to attend Mass should celebrate a liturgy of the Word in their home, using the Sunday readings; like all the faithful, they should refrain from unnecessary work and avoid unnecessary shopping, and should spend time in leisure, rest, and prayer with their families and loved ones.