

## ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

240 E. ONONDAGA STREET, SYRACUSE, NY 13202-2608

### **DISPENSATION FROM THE OBLIGATION TO ABSTAIN FROM MEAT ON GOOD FRIDAY AND ON THE REMAINING FRIDAYS OF LENT**

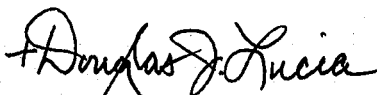
WHEREAS, in view of the rapid spread of COVID-19 and in order to assist people who may have difficulties in shopping for food or other reasons which would make the practice of abstinence difficult at this time,

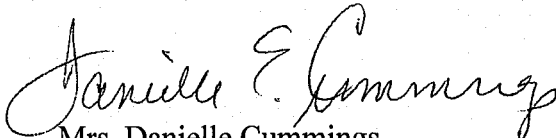
WHEREAS, Catholics ages fourteen and older are required to abstain from meat on Good Friday (April 10th) as well as on all Fridays during Lent (cans. 1251 and 1252),

THEREFORE, I, the Bishop of Syracuse, out of pastoral concern for the faithful and under the norms of canon 87 § 1, do hereby immediately dispense the faithful entrusted to my care and those Catholics who are within the territory of the Diocese of Syracuse from the obligation of abstaining from meat on Good Friday as well as on the remaining Fridays during Lent.

As is fitting and just, those who can abstain from meat are encouraged to do so. Moreover, the law of fasting on Good Friday remains for Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. It is important that the remaining days of Lent continue to be days of penance and prayer in which the mercy God is implored, particularly for an end to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Given this twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord, two-thousand twenty.

  
Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia

  
Mrs. Danielle Cummings  
Chancellor

*Faith • Hope • Charity*