OFFICE OF WORSHIP

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 22, 2020
To: All Clergy of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
From: Reverend Tom Margevičius, Director, Office of Worship
Re: Faculty to Confirm; the Easter Duty; St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier; Mass in Time of Pandemic

I. Faculty to Confirm.
All Archdiocesan confirmations scheduled for April, May, and early June have been cancelled. We cannot yet offer make-up dates because we don’t yet know when public health officials will relax restrictions on public gatherings, and at what levels. If a parish does not want to wait for such dates to be offered, the Archbishop’s April 1 Memorandum indicated they may opt to celebrate the Sacrament in their own parishes. This is a special concession granting the faculty explicitly to Pastors and Parochial Administrators and applies only to Confirmations that were scheduled for 2020. The priest with the faculty must be the main celebrant, though other priests may assist in administering the Sacrament. The Office of Worship will send affected parishes further details on how to carry this out.

If there is a need for a priest other than the Pastor or Parochial Administrator to administer Confirmation (e.g. one who can speak Spanish), the Pastor or Parochial Administrator is to make a request to the Archbishop providing the following information:
   a. The name and location of the parish;
   b. The name of the priest who would do the confirming;
   c. When the Confirmation will occur (be as precise as you can); and
   d. How many students are expected to be confirmed.

II. The Easter Duty.
Canon 920 obliges the faithful to receive Holy Communion at least once a year, usually during the Easter Season—the so-called Easter Duty—“unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at another time.” The suspension of public Mass qualifies as a just cause. Please instruct the faithful in your care that they have likely already fulfilled their obligation, or that they may fulfill it later this year once public Masses resume.

III. Memorial of St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier this Friday.
In 1999 Archbishop Roach indicated to the Good Shepherd Sisters that in gratitude for their service in our local Church, the feast of their Foundress St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier—April 24—would be observed in our Archdiocesan calendar. Consequently, you will find this listed as an Obligatory Memorial on p. 114 of the 2020 Ordo. The liturgical Propers for this Memorial are on the following page.

IV. Mass in Time of Pandemic.
Just a reminder that we are permitted to celebrate the new Mass in a Time of Pandemic on any day given a rank of V¹, V², or V³ in the Ordo. Those texts were included in the April 3 Memorandum from the Office of Worship and can also be found at the Archdiocesan Covid Resources website: https://www.archspm.org/covid19/.
April 24
Saint Mary Euphrasia Pelletier, Virgin

An Obligatory Memorial in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. From the Common of Virgins: One Virgin.
Suggested readings: See Lect. #738.3: Rev. 19:1, 5 – 9a: Blessed are those who have been called to the wedding feast of the Lamb; #762.1: Ps. 27:1, 4, 5, 8b-10: The Lord is my light and my salvation; [If Solemnity, add: #740.7: Eph. 3:14 – 20: To know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge;] #1000.2: Luke 15:1-7: There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.

Entrance Antiphon
I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people and his friends
and those who turn to him in their hearts.

Collect
O God,
who granted that Mary Euphrasia
walk in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd,
graciously grant that we,
who follow her example on earth,
may attain the reward held out to the merciful.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reign with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Offerings
Lord God,
we ask that you accept the gift of our service.
Grant that we, who commemorate your Son’s deed of immense love,
may be strengthened in our love for you and our neighbor
by the example of Mary Euphrasia.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface n. 71, Of Holy Virgins and Religious

Communion Antiphon
No followers of mine shall ever walk in darkness;
no, they shall possess the light of life,
says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion
Refreshed by your gift on this happy occasion,
we ask, O Lord,
that we may grow in true love on earth,
and be found among your flock in heaven.
Through Christ Our Lord.