

**St. Mary's Cathedral, 112 South Cedar St. Grand Island Ne 68801 308-384-2523**

August 21, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Mary's Cathedral,

**From our Bishop Joseph Hanefeldt**

After consulting with the Presbyteral Council of our Diocese and after conferring with Archbishop Lucas in Omaha and Bishop Conley in Lincoln, I am ending the general dispensation from the obligation to participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation, effective the weekend of Pentecost, May 22-23, 2021, in the Diocese of Grand Island.

While more and more people have returned to their places of work and have resumed many other social and recreational activities as well, I believe it is also safe for us to gather at Mass and receive once again the spiritual benefits of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

This obligation extends to all baptized Catholics who are of able body and sound mind. The responsibility to participate in Sunday Mass rests with each of us. There are some, however, who may be excused from the obligation to attend Mass due to advanced age, sickness, disability, or some other serious reason.

**If you are elderly (65 years of age or older) and health compromised, please feel free to stay home** where you can continue to watch Mass online or on television. Go to [www.stmarysgi.com](http://www.stmarysgi.com) and click on either YouTube or Facebook to connect with our parish's pages.

Our Mass schedule is adjusted to allow more time for sanitizing the church between Masses and to add two additional Spanish Masses. Here is the schedule:

Saturday Evening	4 pm English 5:30 pm Spanish
Sunday	English at 7 am; 10:30 am and 5 pm Spanish at 8:30 am and 12:30 pm.
Daily Masses in English:	Mon-Sat at 7 am; Thur. 5:15 pm Daily
Masses in Spanish:	Wed. 5:15 pm & Friday 5:15 pm

If you feel comfortable wearing a mask please do

Mask is optional at this time.

For the time being, Holy Communion will only be given in the hand.

We ask for your patience. Procedures will continue to evolve with time.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding! Let us hold each other in prayer – especially the sick and those adversely affected by this pandemic. If you have questions or special needs – please call the parish office.

In Christ,

**Fr. Canela**

Rev. Jorge Canela

Rector