



Office of the Bishop

Diocese of Rockford

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Rescript Granting a Dispensation from the Law of Abstinence on the Memorial of St. Patrick

Whereas the norms of canons 1251, 1252 and 1253 of the Code of Canon Law require the faithful who have completed their fourteenth year to abstain from eating meat on every Friday of the year in the manner determined by the Conference of Bishops;

Whereas in the United States, the Conference of Bishops require all the faithful to abstain from eating meat on the Fridays of Lent and to substitute some other act of penance on the Fridays outside of Lent;

Whereas the Memorial of St. Patrick falls on a Friday of Lent this year and exhorting the faithful to exercise moderation and temperance in their festivities and celebrations to honor so great a saint and to honor the patrimony of the Irish people to whom he preached the gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ;

Now I, the undersigned Bishop of Rockford, hereby

DISPENSE

The faithful who reside in the Diocese of Rockford, as well as anyone actually present in the Diocese of Rockford, from the observance of the law of abstinence on Friday, March 17, 2023;

And I urge them to perform some other work of penance or charity that day giving due honor and respect to the Paschal Mystery of Our Lord and Savior.

Given this 1st day of February, in the year of our Lord, 2023

Most Reverend David J. Malloy, D.D., J.C.L., S.T.D.
Bishop of Rockford

Ellen B. Lynch
Chancellor