



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF FARGO

5201 Bishops Blvd. S., Suite A • Fargo, North Dakota 58104-7605 • (701) 356-7944 • Fax: (701) 356-7999

DECREE

Commuting the Obligation of Abstinence on the Memorial of St. Patrick

In Nomine Domini. Amen.

Whereas Catholics in the United States are required to observe abstinence from meat on each Friday of Lent (NCCB, *Pastoral Statement on Penance and Abstinence*, n. 13);

Whereas the Memorial of St. Patrick falls on a Friday in Lent this year;

Whereas “during the Lenten season, certain feasts occur which...local custom traditionally exempts from the Lenten spirit of penance...” which may be regulated at the diocesan level (*ibid.*, n. 16);

Whereas the Diocesan Bishop is competent to dispense or commute from universal and particular disciplinary laws (cc. 87 §1, 1245; *Regulae Iuris*, 35);

Therefore, within the territory of the Diocese of Fargo, I hereby commute (that is, replace) the observance of abstinence from meat on Friday, March 17, 2023. Those who wish to make use of this optional provision are instead to observe abstinence from meat on any day between March 13-23, 2023.

Most Rev. John T. Folda
Bishop of Fargo

Given at the Chancery
This 23rd Day of February, 2023.

Mr. Timothy Olson, JCL
Chancellor