



ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

Special Indulgences Granted During this Time of Pandemic 27 March 2020



Pope Francis has announced that an extraordinary *Urbi et Orbi* blessing will be given this Friday, March 27 at 1:00 pm (Eastern Time zone) with the opportunity to receive a plenary indulgence through participation by means of the media. This broadcast will include listening to the Word of God, Eucharistic Adoration and prayers for those suffering from the Coronavirus pandemic.

Moreover, at the instruction of Pope Francis, Mauro Cardinal Piacenza, the Major Penitentiary, has announced the grant of special Indulgences during this time of crisis. The Plenary Indulgence is granted to the faithful suffering from COVID-19 and those who care for them, when they unite themselves spiritually (if possible through the media) to the celebration of the Mass, the recitation of the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross or other forms of devotion. If this is not possible, they are asked to recite the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and an invocation to Mary. All others, including those who offer prayers for those who suffer, for the souls of the dead and who pray for an end to the pandemic are asked, where possible, to visit the Most Holy Sacrament or to take part in Eucharistic adoration. If this is not possible, they can also read the Holy Scriptures for at least half an hour, recite the Rosary or pray the Way of the Cross. The recitation of prayers and the reading of the Bible can easily be done without leaving home and so comply with the civil requirements intended to counter the spread of the contagion. In each case, these should be accompanied by the will to fulfil the usual conditions of sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, as soon as possible.

Those who are close to death and are not able to receive the Anointing of the Sick, to Confess their sins or to receive Communion, are entrusted by the Holy Father to the Divine Mercy. The plenary indulgence is granted to each of them provided that they are duly disposed and have regularly recited some prayer during their lifetime (in this case the Church makes up for the three conditions usually required).

For further information on Indulgences and the conditions usually required for the gaining of them, please refer to *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "[*Indulgences*](#)", para. 1471-1479.