

## October 24, 2023

Dear Brother Priests, Deacons, Liturgists, Administrative Assistants, and Business Managers,

Please be advised of certain key regulations for the liturgies to be celebrated on December 24 and 25, 2023. December 24 falls on a Sunday this year.

- 1. Masses on the morning of December 24 are to be for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. As previously noted, the number of Masses on the morning of December 24 may be reduced if more than one is regularly offered at the parish/mission.
- 2. Masses in the afternoon and evening of December 24 celebrate Christmas.
- 3. There are two distinct Mass obligations: one for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and one for Christmas. This means that between the afternoon of December 23 and the evening of December 25, Catholics are to participate in 2 Masses: the first between the afternoon of December 23 and the last Mass offered for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent on December 24; the second between the afternoon of December 24 and the end of the day on December 25.
- 4. Many Catholics name Advent as one of their favorite seasons of the year. By participating at Mass twice between December 23 and 25, they will complete their celebration of this beautiful time of preparation and enter more fully into the joy of Christmas.

Questions may be directed to Fr. Ken Riley and Fr. Paul Turner.

Know of our appreciation for your service to the faithful during the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas.

In Christ, Fr. Paul Turner, STD Office of Divine Worship Director

