



**DECREE**

**CONCERNING COLLECTIVE MASS INTENTIONS**

For the good of the faithful and for the proper administration of Mass offerings within the Diocese of Joliet, and after lengthy consultation with the Presbyteral Council, I hereby decree the following:

1. Twice within each week, each parish or mission is permitted to combine the intentions of more than one person at a particular Mass. All persons whose intentions are combined must agree to the combining in advance.
2. The parish or mission may place in its "Mass Offering" account only ten dollars (\$10.00) for each of these Masses. Any additional offerings must be either a) deposited in the parish cemetery account, if the parish has a cemetery whose long term care is underfunded, or b) transmitted to the diocesan Finance Office for the maintenance of diocesan cemeteries.

This Decree regarding collective Mass intentions is granted in accord with the Decree of the Congregation of the Clergy promulgated on March 22, 1991. The ten dollar (\$10.00) limit is in accord with Canon 951, which allows a priest to keep only one Mass offering per day.

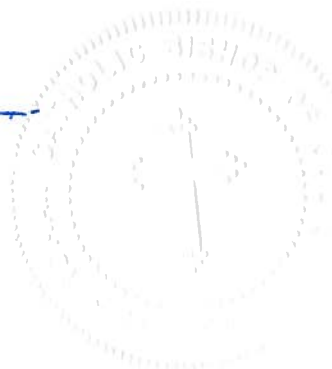
Pastors and those who assist them with the temporal administration of parishes are reminded that "offerings given by the faithful for a certain purpose can be applied only for that same purpose". (Canon 1267§3) Also, parishes may not accept intentions which cannot be satisfied within a year. (Canon 953)

This Decree will take effect on March 5, 2017, the First Sunday of Lent. Commitments for collective Mass intentions that have already been made beyond that date may be satisfied; however, the disposition of offerings in all cases is to be carried out in accord with this Decree no later than March 5, 2017.

Given at Joliet, Illinois on the eleventh day of January, 2017.

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Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon  
Bishop of Joliet-in-Illinois





Sister Judith A. Davies, OSF  
Chancellor