

MEMORANDUM

TO: Priests and Deacons, Diocese of Joliet

FROM: Most Reverend Richard E. Pates

DATE: April 28, 2020

RE: Renewal of the Consecration of the United States of America to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Archbishop José H. Gómez, Archbishop of Los Angeles and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will lead the “Renewal of the Consecration of the United States of America to the Blessed Virgin Mary” on Friday, May 1, 2020, at 2:00p.m. CDT.

Links to the service live-streamed are:

Archdiocese of Los Angeles...
<https://lacatholics.org/consecration/>

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops...
<http://www.usccb.org/consecration>

The consecration on May 1 follows a similar action of the bishops’ conference of Latin America and the Caribbean (CELAM) who consecrated their nations to Our Lady of Guadalupe on Easter Sunday. The renewal of consecration planned in this country for May 1 does not change the designation of Mary as the Patroness of the United States under the title of the Immaculate Conception. Rather, this prayer reaffirms and renews previous Marian entrustments, and unites us in solidarity with our Holy Father, who recently established the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, as a source of protection and strength.

The Renewal of Consecration can also be accommodated at the local level. In the Diocese of Joliet it will be observed in the following manner.

1. Diocesan: I will conduct the Renewal live-streamed from the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus following the 10:00am Mass on Sunday – May 3, 2020 (live-streamed). The link is <https://youtube.com/diocesefjolietil>
2. Parish: Any parish is welcome to conduct the renewal virtually as it best determines.

I am attaching the Order of Worship for the renewal in both English and Spanish for

your use.

The month of May is Mary's month. Very rarely has Mary's intercession been needed as much as it is today in seeking the cessation of the coronavirus. I encourage all parishes to join in the proposed renewal as it best fits their schedule and capacity.