



CATHOLIC DIOCESE *of* JACKSON

237 EAST AMITE STREET JACKSON, MS 39201

JACKSON (March 14, 2020) – As a Church Community we have an obligation to protect the common good and reduce and slow down the spread of coronavirus in order to keep from possible exposure of those vulnerable and from overwhelming our health care system. We all are called to make sacrifices that will benefit others.

The Diocese of Jackson staff continues to assess the status of COVID-19, also known as the coronavirus across our diocese. **At this time, Bishop Joseph Kopacz hereby dispenses all Catholics from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, until further notice.**

That said, Mass will still be celebrated, but the obligation to attend is dispensed. Please follow all directives previously posted.

Early next week a team of clergy and diocesan staff will meet to consider cancelling all public church gatherings going forward in hopes of safe guarding the common good.

Ongoing updates will be made as Holy Week approaches and as the situation changes. We ask for everyone's cooperation and prayers for all as we navigate these uncertain times.