



PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA

Prot. N. 03521/2023-221/23/I

MOST BLESSED FATHER,

Michael Francis Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington, with the greatest devotion of soul, which indeed encompasses the feelings of the clergy and the Christian faithful entrusted to his pastoral care, humbly and joyfully informs Your Holiness: through the Apostolic Letters *Supernae Christifidelium*, given under the seal by Saint Paul VI on 28 May 1974, a new Diocese named “Arlington” was established, with certain territories separated from the Diocese of Richmond.

Now that the mentioned anniversary day has provided the occasion, special sacred functions and celebrations of the Word of God have been declared throughout the whole Diocese, from 1 January to 31 December 2024, in such a way that a widespread opportunity of receiving the sacraments with suitable preparation would be offered, works of fraternal and supernatural charity would be inspired and for this reason the spiritual renewal introduced by the Holy Year of Mercy would be wonderfully strengthened by the grace of God, either in individual members of the Christian faithful or in the different groups of the Diocesan community.

In order to achieve this greatly desired aim, the gift of Sacred Indulgences will help exceedingly, which furthermore, after the manner of a Jubilee, is confidently being sought as testimony and evidence of the paternal benevolence of Your Holiness and as an encouragement to strengthen in the whole Diocese the hierarchical and filial bond towards Your Holiness and towards its own Bishop.

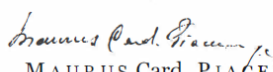
On the first day of December 2023

The Apostolic Penitentiary, by virtue of the faculties granted to it by the Most Holy Father Francis, bestows the Diocesan Jubilee with the attached Plenary Indulgence, the usual conditions having been properly fulfilled (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion and prayer according to the intention of the Supreme Pontiff), which can also be applied by way of suffrage to the souls of the faithful in Purgatory. The Indulgence can be gained by the truly penitent Christian faithful if they visit the Cathedral Church of Saint Thomas More on pilgrimage and there devoutly attend the sacred Jubilee celebrations, or at least for a suitable period of time offer prayers to God for the fidelity of the United States of America to its Christian calling, for the obtaining of priestly and religious vocations and for the institution of the human family to be defended, concluding these prayers with the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed and prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The pious Christian faithful who are impeded by old age or serious illness can likewise gain the Plenary Indulgence if, detesting any sort of sin and with the intention of fulfilling the three usual conditions as soon as they are able, they unite themselves spiritually to the Jubilee celebrations or pilgrimages, offering their prayers and sufferings to the mercy of God.

Therefore, in order that easier access to obtain divine forgiveness through the keys of the Church may issue forth by way of pastoral charity, this Apostolic Penitentiary earnestly asks that the Diocesan Canon Penitentiary, the Cathedral clergy, Pastors and priests provided with the appropriate faculties to hear confessions should, with ready and generous hearts, make themselves available for the celebration of Penance and frequently administer Holy Communion to the sick.

The present conditions are valid for the Diocesan Jubilee. Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.


MAURUS Card. PIACENZA
Paenitentiarius Maior


CHRISTOPHORUS NYKIEL
Regens