



## ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

240 E. ONONDAGA STREET, SYRACUSE, NY 13202-2608

### DISPENSATION

#### FROM THE OBLIGATION TO CELEBRATE THE REMAINING SCRUTINIES IN PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

WHEREAS, in view of the rapid spread of COVID-19 and in order to minimize the risk of contracting or spreading the virus, and

WHEREAS, the scrutinies are an essential part of the Period of Purification and Enlightenment of the Catechumenate, which is the required preparation for adults to be baptized (can. 865 §1),

WHEREAS, at least one scrutiny must be done (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* no. 34, 3),

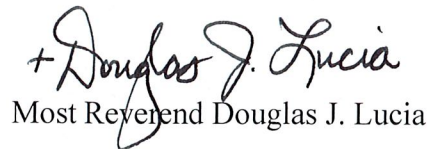
THEREFORE, I, the Bishop of Syracuse, out of pastoral concern for the faithful and under the norms of canon 87 §1 and *R.C.I.A.* no. 34, 3, do hereby immediately dispense the elect entrusted to my care from the obligation to participate in the remaining scrutinies before celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil or at some other opportune time on a Sunday within Mass on or before the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (7 June 2020).

As is fitting and just, the remaining scrutinies, however, may be celebrated privately in small groups, within or outside Mass, either in person taking the necessary health precautions mandated by the Center for Disease Control at this time) or on-line, according to the norms provided in the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* nos. 138-177, at their designated time (e.g., fourth and fifth Sundays / weeks of Lent), or on the Sundays or weekdays preceding the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation, should they be celebrated at another opportune time on or before the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (7 June 2020).

Moreover, when the scrutinies take place, the presentations of the creed and of the Lord's prayer should also take place, if they have not been anticipated during the period of the catechumenate, according to their proper order in conjunction with the order of the scrutinies (see *R.C.I.A.* nos. 147-149; 157-163; 178-184).

Given this twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord, two-thousand twenty.

  
Mrs. Danielle Cummings  
Chancellor

  
Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia

*Faith • Hope • Charity*