



Diocese of Arlington

The Chancery

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OFFICE OF SACRED LITURGY

October 25, 2012

Dear Father,

As part of the celebrations connected with the Year of Faith, the Apostolic Penitentiary has issued a decree dated September 14, 2012 which grants to the faithful a Plenary Indulgence if they fulfill certain spiritual works. The relevant part of the decree reads, "Throughout the Year of Faith — established from 11 October 2012 to 24 November 2013 — all individual members of the faithful who are truly repentant, have duly received the Sacrament of Penance and Holy Communion and who pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff may receive the Plenary Indulgence in remission of the temporal punishment for their sins, imparted through God's mercy and applicable in suffrage to the souls of the deceased: every time they go as pilgrims to a Papal Basilica, a Christian catacomb, a cathedral church, a sacred place designated by the local Ordinary for the Year of Faith (for example, the Minor Basilicas and Shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, to the Holy Apostles or to the Holy Patrons), and take part there in some sacred function or at least pause in recollection for a suitable length of time with devout meditation, concluding with the recitation of the Our Father, the Profession of Faith in any legitimate form, invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary or, depending on the case, to the Holy Apostles or Patrons."

Bishop Loverde has designated the following parishes as places where the faithful can obtain the indulgence according to the conditions given above: (1) the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More, Arlington; (2) Blessed Sacrament, Alexandria; (3) Our Lady of Hope, Potomac Falls; (4) Saint John the Baptist, Front Royal; (5) All Saints, Manassas; (6) Saint Andrew the Apostle, Clifton; and (7) Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Fredericksburg.

In addition, there are other means whereby the faithful can obtain the Plenary Indulgence for the Year of Faith — these are contained in the Apostolic Penitentiary's decree (posted on the diocesan Year of Faith website); however, Bishop Loverde would be grateful if you could make known to the faithful of your parish the list of designated churches and the conditions for gaining the indulgence so that the faithful may avail themselves of this great spiritual benefit.

Fraternally in Christ,

Rev. Paul F. deLadurantaye, S.T.D.
Diocesan Secretary for the Sacred Liturgy