



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Priests, Pastoral Administrators, and Deacons

From: The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester + *Salvatore R. Matano*

Date: March 16, 2022

Re: Diocesan Mass on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at 7:00 p.m., on Friday, March 25, 2022, as Pope Francis Consecrates Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Yesterday, His Holiness, Pope Francis, announced that on Friday, March 25, 2022, in Saint Peter's Basilica, he "will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

On this same day, the Diocese of Rochester will join our Holy Father in prayer at a Mass for the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 7:00 p.m., on Friday, March 25, 2022, seeking the Blessed Mother's intercession that her Son will grant us the gift of peace. Please advertise this Mass and extend my invitation to the faithful to attend this Mass. Priests are invited to concelebrate the Mass; Deacons may vest and participate in the procession.

In addition, I ask that as a Diocesan family we all pray the *Memorare* for this same intention on the nine days leading up to and including March 25th:

**Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee,
O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions,
but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.**