

throughout this pandemic. Loss of life has been immense. People continue to recover from the long-term effects of the virus.

The heroes among us, our nurses, doctors, first responders and all medical professionals, were a source of enormous comfort. Priests brought the Sacrament of the Sick to COVID patients. Now we are able to join together remembering the lives changed and the sacrifices made. Let us gather together again in joy, as one people united around the Eucharist.

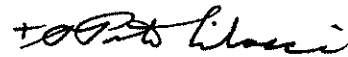
In this year of Saint Joseph, who was always a faithful observer of the sabbath, we chose Father's Day as an appropriate day to encourage all of our people, and especially our families, to return to the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist.

This obligation does not apply to those who are ill; those who have been recently exposed to COVID or any other communicable illness; those who are confined to their homes or to hospitals or other facilities due to illness, infirmity, frailty, or age; and those who are not yet able to be vaccinated, due to age or any health consideration. Parishioners should consult their local pastor if they have questions about the obligation.

To all of those who have not been able to be with us during this last year, we look forward to welcoming you back to the celebration of the Mass.

Thank you, and God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter A. Libasci".

Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci
Bishop of Manchester