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Paul Dennis Etienne BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE APOSTOLIC SEE ARCHBISHOP OF SEATTLE

DISPENSATION FOR SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

The 40 days of Lent are a preparation for the great celebration of the Triduum and the 50 days of Easter. During this penitential season we aim to join ourselves ever more closely to Christ who suffered and died for us to conquer sin and death. As part of our Lenten practice, Catholics are asked to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent.

Whereas, the law of abstinence from meat binds those who have completed their fourteenth year (canon 1252); and

Whereas, this year, the March 17th Memorial of Saint Patrick falls on a Friday in Lent; and

Whereas, Saint Patrick's Day is traditionally commemorated with special celebrations.

Now, Therefore, I decree that on Friday, March 17, 2023, all Catholics of the Archdiocese of Seattle, no matter where they may be, and all other Catholics present here in the archdiocese on that day, are hereby dispensed from the obligation to abstain from meat.

I encourage all who make use of this dispensation to engage in another penitential or charitable act that day.

Given at the Chancery of the Archdiocese of Seattle this 8th day of February, in the year of our Lord, 2023.

> Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL Archbishop of Seattle

Chancellor