**Statement from Msgr. John McGrath, Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of Biloxi**

MITIS JUDEX DOMINUS JESUS abrogates Canons 1671 to 1691. Effective December 8, 2015, the official way we process petitions for annulments changes significantly. For the salvation of souls, Pope Francis has simplified the tribunal process and has given us the means to expedite our tribunal decisions. The grounds for a decree of nullity and the procedures for obtaining testimony supporting nullity have not changed. Therefore until such time as we actually begin using the new norms we will not know the total time saved. The elimination of the mandatory review of our Tribunal's decisions by the Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Mobile will mark a significant savings of time. In order for these expedited procedures to serve us well, it is encumbered upon the pastors and the petitioners to provide detailed answers to all the questions of the court and all the necessary documents.

It must be noted that any decision of any Tribunal can be appealed by either of the parties involved, the Promoter of Justices and/or the Defender of the Bond. Such appeals for the Diocese of Biloxi would be either to the Archdiocese of Mobile's Tribunal or the Roman Rota.