



DECREE  
**Regarding Modification of Liturgical Practice**  
*In Nomine Domini. Amen*

*Whereas* through our Synod Prayer and Listening Events, many of the faithful have expressed a desire for reverence toward the Most Blessed Sacrament in order to deepen Eucharistic faith;

*Whereas* the Diocesan Bishop, as guardian of the Church's liturgy within the diocese entrusted to him, can issue liturgical norms within the limits of his competence (cf. c. 838 §4);

*Whereas* a local custom has arisen in some places which restricts the option of using bells and incense at the relevant moments of the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (cf. General Instruction of the Roman Missal, n. 150);

*Whereas* "The faithful kneel after the *Agnus Dei* (*Lamb of God*) unless the Diocesan Bishop determines otherwise" and "if appropriate [the faithful] may sit or kneel during the period of sacred silence after Communion" (GIRM, n. 43);

**Therefore**, I expressly renounce the customs prohibiting the use of bells and/or incense during the Mass within the territory of the Diocese of Crookston. A Pastor, after having taken into account the true needs and legitimate desires of the faithful within his territory, is free to exercise his prudent discretion in re-introducing the use of bells and/or incense in accord with the provisions of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal.

Further, I determine that those faithful who are able are to kneel after the *Agnus Dei*. Likewise the faithful are encouraged to kneel during the period of sacred silence after Communion until the presider is seated.

These determinations become effective starting at the Vigil Mass of Corpus Christi, 18 June 2022. Anything to the contrary notwithstanding, even if worthy of particular mention. This decree is to be promulgated on the website of the Diocese of Crookston.

+Most Rev. Andrew Cozzens  
*Bishop of Crookston*

Given at the Chancery  
This 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.

Mrs. Janelle Gergen  
*Chancellor*