

Dear Friends in Christ,

In his recent message Archbishop Terrence Prendergast wrote:

*“The United States and Canadian Bishops conferences have jointly agreed to invite the bishops and eparchs of their countries to consecrate their dioceses, parishes, families, individuals and other institutions or groupings to Mary. The Bishops of Latin America carried out such a consecration on Easter Sunday and the bishops of some European countries have done or are doing something similar. It seems in great numbers we feel the need for Our Blessed Mother’s intercession with her Son.*

*This gesture will be performed on this coming Friday, May 1, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker and the beginning of the spring month dedicated to Our Lady. Catholics naturally wish to invoke the maternal protection of Mary, Mother of the Church’s for the people of our country during our shared experience with the whole world of the Covid-19 pandemic.*

*The time that has been recommended is 3PM EDT, but priests and others may choose another time that is more suitable to consecrate the parish, yourself and your families, your town or city (for example following the daily Mass celebrated in your parish, whether live-streamed or not). Bishop Desrochers and I will pronounce this Act of Consecration in English and French from Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica next Friday afternoon.”*



In response to this invitation we will have our own Mass with the Act of Consecration celebrated on **Friday, May 1 at 5pm**. I am also posting the text of the Prayer of Consecration so all of you can join me in reciting it. As you know, in our Christian tradition, May is the month especially dedicated to the Blessed Mother. Let us together turn to her motherly care and love asking for her guidance and protection at this time of danger and struggle.

**MARY, HELP OF THE FAITHFUL, PRAY FOR US!**