



## DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

2110 Broadway • Sacramento, California 95818 • 916/733-0200 • Fax 916/733-0215

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 31, 2017

Rev. Lawrence Beck  
St. Katharine Drexel  
11361 Prospect Drive  
Jackson, CA 95642

Dear Fr. Beck:

May the mercy and peace of God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus be with you and the faithful of St. Katharine Drexel Parish.

I have carefully reviewed the results of parish consultation and the two proposals offered in response to my directive of August 22, 2016. I am approving Proposal Two for the revised Mass Schedule to be inaugurated on Saturday, July 1, 2017.

The new schedule will provide a consistent, reliable schedule for the Catholic Faithful to actively participate in Sunday Mass. Starting July 1, 2017 only one priest will be assigned to serve the parish of St. Katharine Drexel. This schedule will allow him to offer the Sacrifice of the Mass in a reasonable manner that is accessible for as many parishioners as possible.

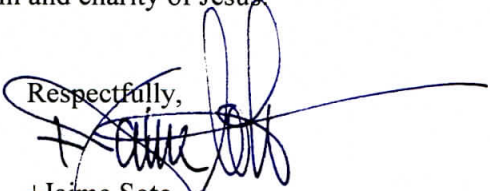
Weekday masses should be offered monthly in the outlying churches that do not have Sunday Mass.

In his pastoral letter, *Dies Domini* (The Lord's Day) St. John Paul II stressed the virtue of coming together as a parish community on Sunday: "The *dies Domini* (day of the Lord) is also the *dies Ecclesiae* (day of the Church). This is why on the pastoral level the community aspect of the Sunday celebration should be particularly stressed. As I have noted elsewhere, among the many activities of a parish, 'none is as vital or as community-forming as the Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist'". (DD, n. 35)

This initiative is much in harmony with the aspirations of St. John Paul II. With these same sentiments I hope the new plan will further contribute to building up the Body of Christ of the neighboring communities of Amador County.

Be assured of my abiding fraternal esteem and prayers. May the intercession of St. Katharine Drexel and our Blessed Mother Mary help us to grow in the wisdom and charity of Jesus.

Respectfully,

  
+Jaime Soto  
Bishop of Sacramento