March 15, 2022

"The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation....
Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and being faithful to Christ and to his Church. (Cf CCC 2181, 2182)

Effective Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022, the obligation to participate in the Eucharist in person on Sundays and other holy days of obligation is restored. Unless excused for a serious reason (illness, care of infants or elderly, etc.) those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.

The Palm Sunday date was chosen to give pastors adequate time to prepare their parishioners and perhaps readjust Mass schedules, etc. As already published, mask requirements as well as requirements for social distancing have been lifted.

In March 2020, because of the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the Corona virus pandemic, the obligation of the faithful to participate in the Mass on Sundays and other holy days of obligation was suspended – although all were encouraged to participate in Mass via livestreamed or by “keeping holy the Lord’s Day” through prayer and reflection on the Scriptures personally or with their families.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas Wenski
Archbishop of Miami