



CONGREGATIO DE CULTU DIVINO
ET DISCIPLINA SACRAMENTORUM

Prot. N. 180/17

Vatican City, 4 August 2017

Your Eminence,

The Congregation was asked for its opinion on your letter of 21 February to the Congregation for Bishops requesting that the Solemnities of the Ascension of the Lord and the Epiphany of the Lord to be returned to their proper days (i.e. forty days after Easter and 6 January respectively).

This Dicastery has looked favourably on the request of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and considers it prudent to issue a Decree, which you will find attached to this letter, approving these changes as well as the request that when 6 January falls on a Saturday or a Monday the celebration be transferred to the adjacent Sunday.

The Bishops' Conference is to be lauded for taking this decision which goes to underline the importance of liturgical time. Many people will no doubt rejoice that they can once again mark these days as they had been marked until 2006. When this decision is promulgated it will be of the greatest importance that it be communicated widely and explained clearly for the benefit of clergy and lay faithful alike.

With sentiments of fraternal esteem, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Robert Card. SARAH
Prefect

(enclosure)

His Eminence
Vincent Cardinal NICHOLS
President
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
39 Eccleston Square
London SW1V 1BX
INGHILTERRA



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ANGLIÆ ET CAMBRIÆ

Instante Eminentissimo Domino Vincentio Cardinali Nichols, Archiepiscopo Vestmonasteriensi, Conferentiæ Episcoporum Angliæ et Cambriæ Præsidi, litteris die 21 mensis februarii 2017 datis, vigore facultatum huic Congregationi a Summo Pontifice FRANCISCO tributarum, attentis expositis, perlibenter concedimus ut, in Calendario proprio eiusdem Conferentiæ, celebratio sollemnitatis in Ascensione Domini die illa propria, scilicet quadragesima post Pascha, atque celebratio sollemnitatis in Epiphania Domini, die illa propria, scilicet 6 ianuarii, in posterum assignentur. Si vero sollemnitas in Epiphania Domini in sabbato occurrat sequenti diei dominicæ assignetur; si vero in feria secunda dominicæ præcedenti.

Contrariis quibuslibet minime obstantibus.

Ex ædibus Congregationis de Cultu Divino et Disciplina Sacramentorum, die 4 mensis augusti 2017, in festo S. Ioannis Mariæ Vianney, presbyteri.

Robertus Card. Sarah
Præfectus

✠ Arturus Roche

Archiepiscopus a Secretis