

MASS OVER THE INTERNET, Father Tony has asked me to post the following statement.

STATEMENT FROM FATHER TONY

It is important to understand that the obligation to take part in the Mass each Sunday is an obligation to do what is reasonable. A committed Catholic who values the Eucharist will want to be at Mass, not simply out of a sense of obligation, but from a desire to share in Christ's sacrifice and to be nourished with the bread of life.

One would expect such a person to do all that is "reasonable" to do so.

Each individual must decide what is "reasonable" in their circumstances.

Clearly if health or medical advice suggest that it would be unwise to go to Mass there can be no obligation.

If in coming weeks we are not allowed to celebrate Mass in public then there can be no obligation.

In such circumstances following Mass on TV or via the internet would be a wonderful way of keeping close to the worshipping community. We should not however confuse the issue by reference to Sunday obligation. There can be no obligation to do what is not actually possible in the circumstances.

Father Tony