



Memo

Date: November 25, 2019

To: All Clergy, parish/mission staff, social action ministers, respect life ministers, campus ministers, school staff, bulletin editors

From: Kat Doyle, Director of Justice and Peace Ministries
Office of Life, Dignity, and Justice

Re: Short Film Screening at World AIDS Day Mass on December 1

**World AIDS Day Mass
Sunday, December 1
5 p.m.
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church**

Communities Make the Difference

The Archdiocese of Atlanta joins the global community to mark World AIDS Day with a Mass on Sunday, December 1, at 5 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, located at 2855 Briarcliff Road NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30329. Auxiliary Bishop Bernard E. Shlesinger III will serve as the principal celebrant. An American Sign Language interpreter will be present to sign the Mass.

Exclusive to our World AIDS Day Mass reception this year will be a screening of a short film made by local photographer and filmmaker Asha Stuart, whose aunt died of AIDS in the 1990s. Asha looks at the AIDS epidemic here in Atlanta, where the infection rate compares to that of the poorest countries in Africa, and she travels to Namibia, a country that once held the highest HIV-prevalence rate in the world. Today, Namibia has successfully cut their infection rate in half and is on track to reach the goal of zero infections by 2030. Asha speaks to Catherine McLean, the CDC's Regional Director for Namibia, to understand how lessons learned in countries like Namibia could be applied at home.