

# PASTORAL LETTER

OF

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BISHOP OF CHATHAM

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THOMAS FRANCIS BARRY, BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND FAVOR  
OF THE APOSTOLIC SEE, BISHOP OF CHATHAM :

*To the Reverend Clergy, Religious Communities  
and Faithful Laity of the Diocese of Chatham,  
Health and Benediction in the Lord.*

« THOU SHALT NOT KILL. » — Exodus, XX, 13.

DEARLY BELOVED. —

We resume again the course of our instructions on the  
Commandments.

The fifth Commandment forbids the murder or killing  
of our fellow-being. By murder we understand the deliberate  
and unjust act by which a sane person destroys the life of  
his fellow-man. This power over life and death God has  
always reserved to Himself, for He alone is the Creator of  
man. « And the Lord God formed man of the slime of the  
earth: and breathed into his face the breath of life, and man  
became a living soul. » (Gen. 11, 27.) « And God created him  
to His own image, to the image of God He created him. »