

BAPTISM and CONFIRMATION

1. According to the provisions of Canon 883, 2°, the *Rite of Confirmation* (Introduction, n. 7b), and in the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (n. 394), Canon 863 notwithstanding, I grant you the mandate to:
 - Baptise those who are no longer infants (aged 14 or older),
 - Admit baptised Christians into full communion with the Catholic Church.

The faculty to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to these specific persons is granted by the law itself to priests acting on the basis of this mandate according to the aforementioned Canon, without the need to defer the matter to the bishop. This faculty to confirm does not extend to a Catholic who has simply not been confirmed. In such a case, outside danger of death (cf. Canon 883 3°), you need a special faculty to confirm which must be sought through the Vicar General.

HOLY EUCHARIST

2. While respecting the freedom afforded Priests by the provisions of Canon 901, all Priests of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga are requested, in accordance with the provisions of decree 13 of the First Diocesan Synod of Sydney, to offer annually during the first week of November a Mass for the repose of the souls of the deceased Priests of the Diocese, and whenever a Priest of the Diocese dies, to offer three Masses for him.
3. In conformity with Canon 905 §2, because of the shortage of priests, I grant you permission to celebrate two Masses on any one day for a just cause and to celebrate a third Mass on Sundays and Holy days of Obligation if pastoral need requires it.
4. One Mass in addition to the Mass of the Lord's Supper may be celebrated in churches and oratories in the afternoon or evening of Maundy Thursday, or in the case of genuine necessity, even in the morning.
5. In accordance with the provisions of Canon 952 §1, the Bishops of the Province of Sydney and the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn decreed on 8 March 2001 that, for the whole of the Province of Sydney and the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn, the offering made for the celebration and application of Mass is \$10.00, except for the cases of the celebration and application of Masses requested in legacies and for November Offerings, when the offering is \$20.00.

If an offering is accepted for the application of a second or third Mass on the same day it must, in accordance with the provisions of the Canon 951, be given to the Diocesan Fund for the Education of Priests or for your own religious institute or society of apostolic life. If you concelebrate a second Mass on the same day, you may not under any title accept an offering for that Mass. (Canon 951)

PENANCE

6. By virtue of Canon 966 §2, I grant you the habitual faculty to hear confessions in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.
7. By virtue of Canons 1196, 1197 and 1202, you possess power to dispense from or commute a private vow or promissory oath, provided the dispensation or commutation does not violate a right of another.

8. By virtue of Canon 1245, you have the power to dispense from the obligation of observing a feast day or day of penance.
9. By virtue of Canon 1355 §2, I grant you the faculty to absolve in the internal or external forum any automatic (*latae sententiae*) excommunication, interdict or suspension, provided it is not reserved to the Apostolic See, and provided it has not been formally declared.

By this faculty you may remit the reserve censure and automatic excommunication which is incurred by an apostate from the faith, a heretic or a schismatic (Canon 1364 §1). In the case of a heretic or schismatic, the remission should normally occur in the external forum so that some record is kept of the penitent's reconciliation and subsequent rights and obligations, such as the need to marry in accordance with the Canonical form (Canon 1117).

Since the year of Mercy, the faculty of absolving one who actually procures an abortion (Canon 1398), and their accomplices in this offence (Canon 1329 §2) has been granted to all priests.

Automatic interdict is incurred by physically assaulting a bishop (Canon 1370 §2); by a non-priest attempting to celebrate Mass (Canon 1378 §2 1°); by one who cannot validly give sacramental absolution, attempting to do so, or hearing a sacramental confession (Canon 1378 §2 2°); by false denunciation to an ecclesiastical superior of a confessor for solicitation to sin against the Sixth Commandment (Canon 1390 §1); and by a non-clerical religious in perpetual vows attempting marriage (Canon 1394 §2).

Automatic suspension is incurred by all clerics who physically assault a bishop (Canon 1370 §2), who are ordained without lawful dimissorial letters (Canon 1383), who falsely denounce a confessor for solicitation (Canon 1390 §1), or who attempt marriage (Canon 1394 §1). Deacons who attempt to celebrate Mass (Canon 1378 §2) also incur it.

In your capacity as confessor, you can, in the internal sacramental forum, remit a *latae sententiae* censure of excommunication or interdict which has not been declared if it is difficult for the penitent to remain in a state of grave sin for the time necessary for the competent superior to provide. In granting remission, you are to impose upon the penitent under pain of incurring again the censure, the obligation to have recourse within one month to a competent superior or to a priest having the requisite faculty, and to abide by his instructions. In the meantime, you are to impose an appropriate penance and to the extent demanded, to require reparation of scandal and damage. You may be asked by the penitent to act on her/his behalf in the matter of recourse; in which case you must not mention a name (Canon 1357). The same recourse, when they have recovered, binds those who were in danger of death who have had remitted an imposed or declared censure or one reserved to the Holy See. (Canon 1357)

MARRIAGE

10. By virtue of Canon 1111, I grant you general delegation to assist at marriages within the confines of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. You may subdelegate the faculty of assisting at marriages in the diocese, but only to a specific Priest or Deacon, and for a specific marriage.
11. As specified in Canon 1118 §1, marriage is normally to be celebrated in a Parish church. Within the Diocese of Wagga Wagga, you may also celebrate marriage in any Catholic church, in the oratory of any Catholic college or institution, or in the interdenominational oratory/chapel of any institution.

PREACHING

12. With at least the presumed consent of the priest in charge of the Church, you have the faculty to preach everywhere, unless this faculty has been restricted or removed by the competent Ordinary. (Canon 764)

FUNERALS

13. In conformity with the provisions of Canon 1183 §2, I prudently judge and permit that children whose parents intended to have them baptised but who died before baptism be granted ecclesiastical funerals.
14. In conformity with the provisions of Canon 1183 §3, I prudently judge and permit that baptised members of non-Catholic churches or ecclesial communions, be granted ecclesiastical funerals but not if it is known that they did not wish this. Be ecumenically aware and do not celebrate funerals of baptised non-Catholics if a minister of their own ecclesial community is available and is the appropriate person to celebrate the funeral.
15. I give you permission to celebrate funerals of unbaptised persons for pastoral reasons (e.g. the deceased was married to a Catholic, but not if it is known that the deceased did not wish this.)

DIVINE OFFICE

16. In keeping with that which was prescribed by Bishop Brennan on 25 October 2000, I grant to priests in the form of a privilege, a dispensation from the obligation to pray the Liturgy of the Hours on the days when these priests who, for legitimate pastoral reasons, celebrate three Masses on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
17. In keeping with that which was prescribed by Bishop Brennan on 25 October 2000, I grant to priests in the form of a privilege, a dispensation from the obligation to pray the Office of Readings, Prayer during the Day and Night Prayer on those days when these priests who, for legitimate pastoral reasons, celebrate two Masses on Sundays or Weekdays.

ECUMENISM

18. Although the reading of Sacred Scripture during Mass is, as a rule, to be carried out by a Catholic, on exceptional occasions and for a just cause, you may permit a member of another non-Catholic church or ecclesial communion to proclaim the Sacred Scriptures at Mass. Although the homily at Mass is always reserved to a Catholic cleric, you may, on occasion, permit a cleric of another non-Catholic church or ecclesial communion to address the congregation during Mass (cf. Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, *Directory for the Application of the Principles and Norms of Ecumenism*, 25 March 1993, no's 118, 126, 133, 158).
19. In a Mass in a Catholic school context, I permit non-Catholic teachers of the school and non-Catholic students of the school and their families to proclaim the Sacred Scriptures.
20. In a Mass in a hospital context, I permit non-Catholic workers in the hospital and their families and non-Catholic patients and their families to proclaim the Sacred Scriptures.