



## GENERAL ARCHDIOCESAN FACULTIES

The following priestly faculties are granted within the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of Miami for the priests incardinated to the Archdiocese, or those who receive them through a special grant either indefinitely or for a specific time. These faculties are granted by virtue of the universal law of the Church or by the consent of the Ordinary. No further expression of consent on the part of the Ordinary is needed for the lawful exercise in this Archdiocese.

1. The habitual faculty to hear confessions is hereby granted to priests incardinated into the Archdiocese of Miami according to Canon 967 and to those who hold an official appointment in this Archdiocese; also, to those who enjoy them from their own Ordinary (Canon 969) and have obtained permission to minister in the Archdiocese of Miami. Priests who are incardinated or have domicile in the Archdiocese of Miami and who possess the faculty of hearing confessions from the local Ordinary of Miami, can exercise this faculty everywhere in the world, unless some other local Ordinary denies it in a particular case within his own territory (Canons 967 §2; 974 §2).
2. To hear confessions anywhere in danger of death (Canon 976).
3. To absolve in the act of the Sacrament of Reconciliation any faithful from the *latae sententiae* censures incurred by those who procure a successful abortion and those who assist at it (1397); as well as the power to absolve, in the act of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, all other *latae sententiae* censures, with the exception of those reserved to the Holy See (Canons 1356; 1357;1358).
4. To celebrate the Eucharist according to the norms of canonical and liturgical laws (Canon 900 §2; ff).
5. Priests may celebrate the Eucharist on any day and at any hour, except for those times excluded by liturgical norms (Canon 931).
6. To celebrate the Eucharist privately, and to celebrate while sitting if one is sick or elderly (Canon 930).
7. The Eucharist should ordinarily be celebrated in a sacred place. However, in particular cases of necessity and pastoral need, priests may celebrate the Eucharist in some fitting place. In the latter cases, a suitable table that is not dedicated or blessed may be used, always using a cloth and a corporal (Canon 932).
8. For a good reason, priests may binate on weekdays and even trinate on Sundays and holidays, if pastoral need requires it (Canon 905).

9. Priests who binate or trinate may eat something before the second or third celebration, even if the period of one hour of fasting is not observed (Canon 919).
10. To celebrate the Eucharist by using the text of any approved Mass if one is blind or suffering from another infirmity (Canon 930 §2).
11. Priests who celebrate the Eucharist more than once the same day may apply the individual Mass for the intention for which an offering was made but they may retain the offering for only one Mass, sending the other offerings to the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center to be given to whatever entity the Archbishop decides. An exception to this rule is Christmas, when the priest can retain all Mass stipends from the Masses he celebrated – one usual stipend per Mass (Canon 951).
12. To dispense, in individual cases, for a just reason, from the Eucharistic abstinence (Canon 919).
13. In the administration of sacraments in which sacred oils are to be used, the oils should be those that have been recently consecrated or blessed by a bishop. However, in the case of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, priests can bless the oil, but only in the celebration of the sacrament. The oil must come from olives or from other plants (Canons 847; 999, 2°).
14. Priests may keep the oil of the sick, for any good reason, in the rectory, in their automobile, or in some other appropriate place (see: Canon 847 §2).
15. To carry the oil of the sick so that in case of necessity the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be administered (Canon 1003 §3).
16. In the case of danger of death, and only when the local Ordinary cannot be reached, priests enjoying faculties and those delegated or sub-delegated may dispense from the form prescribed for the celebration of Matrimony and from all impediments of ecclesiastical law, except the impediments arising from the Sacred Order of the Presbyterate (Canon 1079 §1 and §2) and from any impediment arising from divine or natural law. In these cases, the priest is to inform the local Ordinary of a dispensation granted for the external forum and this dispensation is to be recorded in the marriage register of the parish in which territory the ceremony took place (Canon 1081).
17. Whenever an impediment to marriage is discovered and all the wedding preparations have been made and the marriage cannot be deferred without probable danger of serious harm, until dispensation can be obtained from competent authority, a priest enjoying faculties and those delegated or sub-delegated, may dispense from all the impediments of ecclesiastical law, except the impediment of crime and the impediment arising from Sacred Orders or from public perpetual vow of chastity (Canons 1078 & 1080) and from any impediment arising from divine or natural law.
18. Priests may impart all blessings except those which are reserved to the Roman Pontiff or to Bishops; (Canon 1169 §2). Examples of reserved blessings performed by bishops only are: the consecration of Chrism and the consecration of virgins.
19. Priests possess the faculty to preach everywhere in the world, unless this faculty has been restricted or removed by the competent Ordinary or unless express permission is required by particular law. This faculty should always be exercised with at least the presumed consent of the Rector or Pastor of the Church (Canon 764).

20. To preach to Religious in their churches or oratories only with the permission of the competent Superior (Canon 765).
21. To baptize **one** adult who has completed the fourteenth year, without previously referring the matter to the Diocesan Archbishop and to immediately administer Confirmation (Canons 863; 883, 2°).
22. To allow church funeral rites for an unbaptized child, if the parents had intended to have the child baptized; also, to allow church funeral rites for a baptized person belonging to a non-Catholic church or ecclesial community, provided this is not clearly contrary to the wishes of the deceased and provided a minister of the faith of the deceased is not available (Canon 1183 §2&3);
23. Erect the Stations of the Cross in churches, chapels, and out-of-doors (see: Canon 1169 §1 & §2).
24. It is important that all non-parochial ministries be coordinated within the context of the Archdiocesan structure. It is, therefore, never permitted for any priest (diocesan or religious) to initiate or participate in such ministries without the direct authorization of the Ordinary or his delegate (see Canons 146-156;1276).

#### **ADDITIONAL FACULTIES GRANTED TO PASTORS AND PARISH ADMINISTRATORS**

In addition to the faculties granted as presented above Canon Law grants to the pastors the following faculties:

25. To exercise the pastoral care of the community entrusted to him under the authority of the Diocesan Bishop so that, for his community, he may carry out the offices of teaching, sanctifying, and ruling with the cooperation of his priests or deacons and with the assistance of lay members of Christ's faithful in accord with law (Canon 519).
26. To act in the person of the parish in all canonical matters (Canon 532).
27. To grant to any priest who has faculties for hearing confessions from his own Ordinary, the permission to use his church to hear confessions. However, priests from outside of the Archdiocese of Miami who *do not have* the faculties to hear confession from their own Ordinary must be referred to the Office of the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs (Canon 966 §1 & §2).
28. To celebrate the Eucharist for the people entrusted to him on all Sundays and Holydays of Obligation. If the pastor cannot celebrate the "Pro Populo" Mass on these days, he can move it to another weekday. In case of necessity, he may delegate someone else satisfy the "Missa Pro Populo" but only on these Sundays and Holydays of Obligation (Canon 534 §1).
29. To grant to other priests and deacons the faculty of assisting at all marriages within the territory of his parish. Otherwise, a Pastor can delegate a specific priest or deacon to assist at a specific marriage within the territory of his parish. Any general delegation must be granted in writing (Canon 1111 §1 & §2).
30. To assist, by virtue of office, at the marriage of both subjects and non-subjects, provided one of

the parties is of the Latin Rite, but only for his own parish (Canon 1109). The Pastor may give general delegation to any priest or deacon to witness weddings within his territory. This general delegation is to be in writing and kept in the parish archives.

31. Pastors within the Archdiocese of Miami may grant the following permissions for Catholics who wish to marry: (a) a baptized non-Catholic, (b) a Catholic who has notoriously rejected the Catholic Faith, (c) a person who has natural obligations to a former spouse or children, (d) a person who is under 19 years of age, (e) a person involved in a premarital pregnancy situation, (f) a couple who will have less than six-month preparation period. These faculties may not be sub-delegated.
32. To dispense from private vows made by: (1) a person belonging to the parish to which the priest is assigned and by (2) a visitor within the parish, only if no injury is done to the acquired rights of others (compare Canon 1196).
33. To commute to a better, equal or even lesser good what has been promised by private vow made by: (1) a person belonging to the parish to which he is assigned and also by (2) a visiting faithful within the territory (Canon 1197).
34. To suspend, dispense or commute a promissory oath, unless the dispensation from oath would tend to harm others (Canon 1203).
35. To admit into full communion in the Catholic Church those already baptized, even if over fourteen years of age, and to validly confirm them if they are of the age approved in our Archdiocese.

**ADDITIONAL FACULTIES GRANTED TO  
PAROCHIAL VICARS AND  
PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE WITH OFFICIAL ASSIGNMENTS**

In addition to the General Faculties as presented above (no. 1-28), the Archbishop of Miami grants the following faculties to Parochial Vicars and the extern priests in residence with an official assignment in the Archdiocese of Miami and to those enjoying general delegation:

36. To enjoy general delegation to assist at marriages within the boundaries of the parish to which they are assigned either as Parochial Vicar or in residence, to grant other priests and deacons, in individual instances, the faculty to assist at marriages within the boundaries of the parishes to which the Parochial Vicars and priests in residence with official appointments are assigned. The fact of delegation is to be noted in the marriage records (Canons 1111 §2; 137 §3).
37. To dispense from private vows made by: (1) a person belonging to the parish to which the priest is assigned and by (2) a visitor within the parish, only if no injury is done to the acquired rights of others (compare Canon 1196).
38. To commute to a better, equal or even lesser good what has been promised by private vow made by: (1) a person belonging to the parish to which he is assigned and also by (2) a visiting faithful within the territory (Canon 1197).
39. To suspend, dispense or commute a promissory oath, unless the dispensation from oath would tend to harm others (Canon 1203).

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