



DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH  
THE BISHOP'S OFFICE  
DECREE



Dear Fathers,

Whereas the coronavirus pandemic has necessitated an increase in the number of celebrations of the sacrament of confirmation throughout the diocese in order to accommodate the directives for social distancing and the participation of the faithful, the following faculty is hereby conferred by special grant, beginning on Friday, January 15, 2021, and lasting to Wednesday, September 1, 2021:

**To all pastors and associate pastors, within the territory of the parish, to confer the sacrament of confirmation upon baptized Catholics who have at least completed the fifteenth year of age<sup>1</sup> (c. 882; c. 891; USCCB Complementary Norms; Diocesan guidelines).**

Priests of the diocese are further reminded of the following faculties conferred upon them by universal law:

**To all pastors and associate pastors, as regards a person who is no longer an infant<sup>2</sup> within the territory of the parish, to confer the sacrament of confirmation immediately following the valid conferral of the sacrament of baptism or the admission of one already baptized into the full communion of the Catholic Church (c. 883, 2°).**

**To all priests, to confirm those in danger of death (c. 883, 3°).**

In the Sacrament of Confirmation Christ continues to bestow on the members of the Church the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we all need to be witnesses and signs of his love to the world. I pray that you will be strengthened by the Spirit's gifts in your own ministry to Christ's people.

Given this 15th day of January, 2021, at Fort Worth.

  
Bishop of Fort Worth

  
Chancellor



<sup>1</sup> Canonical age is computed at midnight when one "completes" a full year. Thus, for example, a person celebrates his or her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday but is still 14, turns canonically fifteen at midnight, and can then be confirmed the following day, all things being equal.

<sup>2</sup> With regard to the sacraments of initiation, a person is considered to be an infant until he or she attains the use of reason, typically around age 7.

THE CATHOLIC CENTER

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