

FACULTY TO CONFIRM

The question of when a priest has the faculty to confirm can be confusing.

By virtue of the law, priests have the faculty to confirm in the following circumstances:

- 1) All priests have the faculty to confirm in danger of death (c. 883, 3°).
- 2) In virtue of their office (e.g., pastor, parochial vicar, sacramental minister) and other priests by mandate have the faculty to confirm when
 - a) they baptize someone who is age seven or older (c. 883, 2°);
 - b) they receive a baptized non-Catholic who is age seven or older into full communion with the Catholic Church (c. 883, 2°, *National Statutes for the Catechumenate*, 35);
 - c) they readmit into full communion a baptized Catholic who has been an apostate from the faith, that is, a Catholic who has completely rejected Christianity (c. 751, *National Statutes for the Catechumenate*, 28);
 - d) they readmit into full communion a baptized Catholic who without fault has been instructed in a non-Catholic religion or adhered to a non-Catholic religion, for example, someone who was baptized as a Catholic as an infant but whose parents raised him or her as a Protestant (*National Statutes for the Catechumenate*, 28).

By virtue of the Diocese of Marquette *Pagella of Faculties for Priests*, priests have the faculty to confirm in the following circumstance:

- a) at the Easter Vigil, when they readmit into full communion adults who were baptized as Catholics in infancy but never subsequently catechized.

A priest must request the faculty to confirm all persons who do not fall in any of the circumstances listed above.