

### **Confirmation postponement summary:**

1. Confirmation dates scheduled for the Spring (April, May and June) are being postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis. This includes the Confirmation ceremonies planned at the Cathedral.
2. Bishop Ricken will delegate authority to pastors and priest celebrants of parishes with the Sacrament of Confirmation planned for the Spring of 2020 (including those with confirmands planning to attend the Cathedral confirmation) to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation themselves at a date of their choosing through December 31, 2020. Each Pastor must request the faculty to Confirm (or the pastoral leader on behalf of the priest celebrant) his parishioners from Bishop Ricken by letter. Instructions are below.
3. New dates for Confirmation can be set by the pastor or pastoral leader only when it is clearly safe for all people in attendance (and allowed by State mandates respecting the maximum number of people allowed in a room/confined space).
4. For those parishes with Confirmations scheduled for the Spring of 2020, in light of the present health crisis, if it is not possible to complete preparation for the Sacrament, the pastor or pastoral leader has authority to waive diocesan requirements for preparation. Each confirmand is still required to submit a personal letter to Bishop Ricken according to our common practice.
  - A. Pastors or pastoral leaders along with their catechetical/Confirmation preparation leaders are encouraged to reach out to all confirmands, sponsors and their families during this interim time to share the Bishop's video and pertinent information with them, as well as to inquire how they are doing and if there are any needs or prayer requests they may have. (Special attention should be given to confirmands who may be graduating in the Spring and/or may not be available for Confirmation in the fall.)
5. Each parish will make the decision as to the best date to reschedule their Confirmation.
6. These directions are also for adults or youth to be confirmed at the Cathedral during the Spring.
7. Confirmations from multiple parishes that were to be combined in one parish are now to be celebrated by the pastor or priest celebrant of the home parish.

### **Instructions for Pastors, Priest Administrators, or Pastoral Leaders requesting delegation:**

1. Pastors, priest administrators, or pastoral leaders (on behalf of the priest celebrant) will request from Bishop Ricken the faculty to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with the confirmands.
2. Included in the letter requesting the faculty to Confirm will be the name of each confirmand, the location of the celebration, and the date that Confirmation will now be celebrated.
3. The faculty to Confirm will be granted for a specific date and for a specific priest, thus the date and the celebrant must be stated. For parishes with pastoral leaders, the priest celebrant should be asked by the pastoral leader to be the celebrant of Confirmation.
4. Once the faculty is granted, an instruction in the Rite of Confirmation will be sent to the priest to guide his preparation for the celebration of the sacrament.