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FACULTIES: SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

21. A. A PRIEST WHO IS GIVEN THE FACULTIES OF THE DIOCESE BY LAW (SUCH AS THE PASTOR) OR BY SPECIAL CONCESSION (SUCH AS A RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATE) MAY ADMINISTER THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION ALL OVER THE WORLD UNLESS A PARTICULAR ORDINARY DENIES HIM THIS RIGHT (cf. c. 967, #2 AND #3).
- B. IN ADMINISTERING THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION, THE PROPER RITE IS TO BE USED AND THE THREE APPROVED FORMS ARE TO BE USED ACCORDING TO THE NORMS OF LAW (cf. cc. 960 AND 961).
- C. WHEN GENERAL ABSOLUTION IS CELEBRATED ACCORDING TO THE CANONICAL NORMS, THE FAITHFUL ARE TO BE INSTRUCTED THAT FOR THE VALIDITY OF THE ABSOLUTION EACH PENITENT MUST HAVE THE INTENTION OF CONFESSING INDIVIDUALLY IN DUE TIME ALL SERIOUS SINS (cf. c. 962, #1).
- D. IN DANGER OF DEATH, ANY PRIEST CAN ABSOLVE FROM ANY SIN. A PRIEST HAS AN OBLIGATION TO USE THIS FACULTY WHEN SOMEONE IS IN DANGER OF DEATH. (cf. c. 977, WHICH REFERS TO THE ABSOLUTION OF AN ACCOMPLICE.)
- E. PRIESTS WHO HAVE BEEN GIVEN THESE FACULTIES MAY ABSOLVE FROM ALL CENSURES RESERVED TO THE ORDINARY BY LAW. THIS INCLUDES THE POWER TO ABSOLVE, FOR THE FIRST TIME ONLY, A PERSON WHO HAS INCURRED THE CENSURE FOR PROCURING AN ABORTION. THE CENSURES OF APOSTASY, HERESY OR SCHISM, WHICH ARE INCURRED IN THE EXTERNAL FORUM, ARE ALSO INCLUDED (cf. c. 1364). THIS POWER CAN BE EXERCISED EITHER IN THE INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL FORUM. (IN THIS DIOCESE, THE ORDINARY HAS NOT RESERVED ANY SPECIAL SINS.)
- F. IN DANGER OF DEATH, A PRIEST MAY ABSOLVE FROM ALL RESERVED CENSURES. IF THE PENITENT RECOVERS, RECOURSE IS REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN CENSURES. IN CASE OF DOUBT, THE CHANCERY MAY BE CONSULTED.
- G. IN AN URGENT CASE WHEN A PENITENT DOES NOT WISH TO REMAIN IN SIN FOR THE TIME NEEDED TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY FACULTIES, EVERY CONFESSOR CAN ABSOLVE FROM CENSURES IN THE SACRAMENTAL FORUM. RECOURSE TO A COMPETENT SUPERIOR MUST BE MADE WITHIN A MONTH UNLESS IT IS MORALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO DO SO (cf. cc. 976 AND 1357).
- H. IN ORDINARY CASES, WHEN THERE IS NO DANGER OF DEATH NOR

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AN URGENT CASE, THE CONFESSOR MAY NOT ABSOLVE, WITHOUT PRIOR RECOURSE, FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED CRIMES WHICH ARE RESERVED. SOME OF THE CRIMES RESERVED TO THE HOLY SEE ARE: DESECRATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (c. 1367), ABSOLVING AN ACCOMPLICE (c. 1378), PRESUMING TO VIOLATE THE SEAL OF CONFESSION (c. 1338, #1), LAYING HANDS ON THE POPE, ATTEMPTED MARRIAGE BY A PRIEST UNABLE TO SEPARATE.