

## JAMES PATRICK POWERS

## Bishop of Superior

## **DECREE**

Mindful of the significant contribution Catholic health care services offer as well as of my responsibility as diocesan bishop to safeguard the integrity and unity of the works of the apostolate pertaining to health care in the Diocese of Superior (canons 209, 216, 222, 381, 392, 394, 678, and 747);

Noting that the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Health Care Services*, issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, define and clarify crucial moral, ethical, and professional rights and obligations in this regard, and wishing further to solidify these rights and obligations by endowing them with legislative force;

Now, therefore, I, the undersigned Bishop of Superior hereby decree in accordance with the norm of canon 29, that the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Health Care Services*, including as they may be revised and reissued from time to time by the competent organ of the USCCB, are to be observed in the Diocese with the force of particular law, under the exclusive authoritative interpretation of the undersigned legislator (c.16).

The present decree is to be promulgated in accord with canon 8, §2 by publication on the website for the Diocese of Superior (<a href="www.catholicdos.org">www.catholicdos.org</a>), and is further to be delivered, along with a copy of the current edition of the directives themselves, to the chief executive officer and the sponsors of all Catholic health care institutions operating within the Diocese of Superior and will enter into force on September 1, 2022 without prejudice to the existing moral, ethical, and professional obligations that urge its observance in the meantime.

Any contrary particular legislation, directives, or instructions notwithstanding,

Given at Superior this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022.

Most Rev. James P Powers

Bishop of Superior