



PASTORAL OFFICE
DIOCESE OF BAKER

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**DELEGATION OF A VISITING PRIEST OR DEACON
AS OFFICIAL WITNESS IN A MARRIAGE**

APPLICABLE NORMS

For the validity of marriage, all visiting priests and deacons must receive special delegation to officiate at marriages celebrated in the Diocese of Baker. This matter is governed by the rules of delegation and sub-delegation contained in the *Code of Canon Law* (cc. 137 §§ 3 and 4 and 1111) and the “Habitual Faculties” granted to all priests and deacons who exercise ministry in the Diocese of Baker. (cf. *Pastoral Guidelines*, “Chapter Five,” #603, and Appendix 13, #6)

As a general rule, the general delegation granted to all priests and deacons to officially witness marriages within the Diocese of Baker may be expressly sub-delegated to visiting priests and deacons for individual marriages only, that is, may only be specially delegated. Sub-delegated faculties cannot be further sub-delegated unless the local ordinary expressly makes such a provision. Should a visiting cleric need general delegation to witness several marriages, whether within a parish territory or within the entire Diocese of Baker during the period of his visit, the priest or deacon whom they are visiting must seek prior authorization from the local ordinary of Baker Diocese (the Bishop, the vicar general, or anyone else granted such faculties).

DELEGATION

(Please Complete in Block Letters)

I grant the Reverend (Mr.) _____ the delegation to witness the marriage of _____ and _____, at the _____ Church, on the ____ day of _____, 201 . This delegation is not valid after six months from the date in which it is given.

Given at _____, this ____ day of _____, the year of the Lord 201 .

Signature of Delegating Cleric

Parish Seal