



Pastoral Center
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Memorandum

Date: October 31, 2018

From: Very Reverend Christopher Ferrer, JCL, Judicial Vicar

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Ferrer'.

To: All pastors, parochial vicars, and advocates

Re: **Tribunal business during 2018 holiday season**

The Canonical & Tribunal Services Department has a special concern that parties to matrimonial nullity cases not have their Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays interrupted by ongoing tribunal business.

Accordingly, to avoid a party being cited to respond to a new case during these holidays, the Tribunal will be placing a pause on the opening of new matrimonial nullity cases. **New cases received after November 15, 2018, will be processed starting on January 2, 2019.**

The Tribunal's last day for sending mail for **ongoing cases** is **December 7, 2018**; we will resume on **January 2, 2019**. This is to prevent a party from being required to appeal a decision during Christmas or a witness to respond to questions during that same time.

The Tribunal would also like to inform the pastors that, as of now, it has received more than 120% of its usual annual case load. We appreciate your attentiveness regarding this important ministry concerning marriage and the family.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office. Thank you, and have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas.