



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

Office of the Bishop
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DECREE

GENERAL DECREE ESTABLISHING THE 7th EDITION OF THE *ETHICAL AND RELIGIOUS DIRECTIVES FOR CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE SERVICES* AS PARTICULAR LAW IN THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

Mindful of my responsibility as diocesan bishop to safeguard the integrity and unity of the truths of the faith, moral principles, and ecclesiastical discipline in the works of the apostolate pertaining to health care in the Diocese of Columbus (cf. canons 392, 394, 678, and 747);

I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, by the grace of God and the Apostolic See Bishop of Columbus, hereby issue this General Decree in accord with canon 29 establishing the 7th edition of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* as particular law in the Diocese of Columbus.

The 7th Edition of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* is to be promulgated in accord with canon 9, §2 by publication of the text on the Internet Website for the Diocese of Columbus (www.columbuscatholic.org) and by delivering a copy of same and a copy of this decree to the chief executive officer and the sponsors of all Catholic health care institutions located in the Diocese of Columbus. The provisions of the 7th Edition of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* shall become effective and binding within the Diocese of Columbus on November 18, 2025, any particular legislation, directives, or instructions to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given this 18th day of November, 2025 at the Chancery, 198 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

Rev. Mr. Thomas M. Berg, Jr.
Chancellor & Notary