



Office of the Bishop

GENERAL DECREE ESTABLISHING THE SEVENTH EDITION OF THE ETHICAL AND RELIGIOUS DIRECTIVES FOR CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE SERVICES AS PARTICULAR LAW IN THE DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY – ST JOSEPH

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 Kansas City – St. Joseph (cf. canons 392, 394, 678, and 747);

I, Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr., by the grace of God and the Apostolic See, Bishop of Kansas City – St. Joseph, hereby issue this General Decree in accord with canon 29 establishing the Seventh Edition of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services*, approved on November 12, 2025, as particular law in the Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph.

The Seventh Edition of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* is to be promulgated in accord with canon 8, §2 by publication of the text on the Internet website for the Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph ([www.kcsjatholic.org](http://www.kcsjatholic.org)) and by delivering a copy of the same and a copy of this decree to the chief executive officers and the sponsors of all Catholic health care institutions and those animated in written administration by a Catholic spirit located in the Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph. The provisions of the Seventh Edition of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* Bylaws shall become effective and binding within the Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph on November 21, 2025, any particular legislation, directives, or instructions to the contrary notwithstanding.

Dated this Fourteenth of November, in the Year of Our Lord 2025.



+ James V. Johnston, Jr.

Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr.  
Bishop of Kansas City – St. Joseph

Kenneth A. Riley

Very Reverend Kenneth A. Riley  
Vicar General - Chancellor