



Prot. N. 2020-0401 JV

**DECREE ADOPTING SPECIAL RULES FOR NOTARIES IN LIGHT OF THE
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

I, Reverend Giovanni Capucci, JCD, the undersigned Judicial Vicar for the Archdiocese of Denver,

Having seen canon 1437 of the *Code of Canon Law* and article 62 of the Instruction *Dignitas connubii*, and

Having seen Executive Order D 2020 017, signed by Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado, on March 25, 2020, ordering Coloradans to stay at home due to the presence of COVID-19 in the State, and

Having seen Executive Order D 2020 019, signed by Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado, on March 27, 2020, ordering the temporary suspension of the personal appearance requirement for notarization due to the presence of COVID-19 in the State, and

Having seen the Adoption of Temporary Rules from the Colorado Secretary of State, dated March 30, 2020, and

Considering the need for ecclesiastical notaries to continue to function during the coronavirus pandemic,

I hereby decree that ecclesiastical notaries are to fulfill their duty to authenticate acts and signatures using a method of remote notarization, which does not require the notary to be physically present, as long as the Governor's Executive Order D 2020 019 retains force in Colorado.

I further decree that remote notarization requires the use of audio-video communication technology, such that an individual is able to be seen and heard by the ecclesiastical notary in real time, and which enables the individual to present an image of a

government-issued identification, of sufficient quality to allow the notary to verify the identity of the individual.

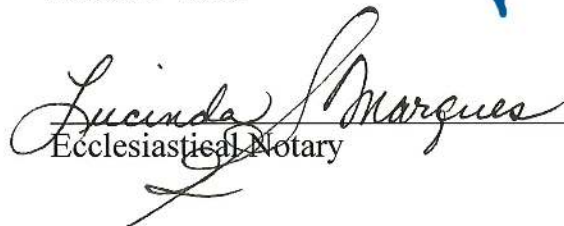
I further decree that an ecclesiastical notary may refuse to make a notarial act if he or she is not satisfied of being able to verify the identity of the individual.

I further decree that any notarial acts made by means of remote notarization 1) must be put in writing, 2) must indicate that the notarial act was performed using audio-video technology, 3) must include the name of the notary and the date and time of the notarial act, 4) must include the identity of the remotely located individual whose signature is the subject of the notarial act.

I furthermore order that this decree be made known in accordance with canon 54 §2 of the *Code of Canon Law*, and that it be sent to the archives of the Archdiocese of Denver.

Given at the *Curia Denveriensis* on this 1st day of April, 2020.


Very Reverend Giovanni Capacci, JCD
Judicial Vicar


Ecclesiastical Notary

