



# Clergy Health Notification Policy

## Clergy Health Notification and Support

### Purpose:

This policy outlines the expectations for clergy regarding notification to the Bishop's office concerning significant health events. The purpose is to ensure the well-being of the clergy and their families, facilitate appropriate pastoral care and support from the Diocese, and enable the Bishop to be informed of situations that may impact ministry or require diocesan prayer and assistance.

### Scope:

This policy applies to all clergy, both active and retired, who are canonically resident in or licensed to officiate within the Diocese of Idaho.

### Policy Statements:

1. Clergy Hospitalization Notification:

All clergy (active and retired) are required to inform the Bishop of Idaho if they are admitted to a hospital for any medical procedure, planned or emergency.

- **Planned Procedures:** For planned hospital admissions, clergy are expected to inform the Bishop's office **prior** to the scheduled admission. This allows for prayer, support, and any necessary arrangements for coverage of ministerial duties.
- **Emergency Admissions:** In the event of an unforeseen or emergency hospital admission, clergy, or a designated family member or close friend on their behalf, should inform the Bishop's office as soon as reasonably possible.

2. Significant Other's Hospitalization Notification:

All clergy are encouraged to inform the Bishop of Idaho if their significant other

(spouse, partner, or other immediate family member living in the same household) is undergoing a medical intervention that requires hospitalization. This notification allows the Diocese to extend pastoral care and support to the clergy member and their family during a potentially challenging time. This notification should also occur prior to planned interventions or as soon as reasonably possible for emergencies.

**Confidentiality:**

All information shared under this policy will be treated with the utmost confidentiality by the Bishop and the Bishop's staff, and will be used solely for the purpose of providing pastoral care, support, and prayer, and for making any necessary administrative arrangements.

**Review:**

This policy will be reviewed periodically by the Bishop and the Diocesan Council to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness in supporting the clergy and their families.