



Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools

A. Responsible to the Archbishop of Vancouver

The Episcopal Vicar must always act with the Archbishop's mind and remain closely in contact with him. Canon 480 requires the Vicar to report to the Archbishop "concerning more important matters, both those yet to be attended to and those already dealt with."

Even though the Vicar enjoys ordinary power in his own right, his power is vicarious and is exercised in close coordination with the Archbishop, who has the responsibility of personally coordinating his work.

B. Role Provided by the Code of Canon Law

Canon law equates an Episcopal Vicar to the Vicar General in all ways except the extent of his responsibilities and authority, although the Vicar General holds a preeminent place within the Archdiocesan curia.

Canon 476 defines the office of Episcopal Vicar: "As often as the good governance of the Diocese requires it, the Diocesan Bishop can also appoint one or more Episcopal Vicars. These have the same ordinary power which the universal law gives to a Vicar General, in accordance with the following Canons. The competence of an Episcopal Vicar, however, is limited to a determined part of the Diocese or to a specific type of activity, or to the faithful of a particular rite, or to certain groups of people."

C. Determination of Authority

The Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools is competent in matters relating to Catholic education (Canons 793 – 806), excluding the institutions of higher studies; that is, St. Mark's College, Catholic Pacific College, Corpus Christi College, and the Seminary of Christ the King.

D. Specific Duties

1. Assists the Archbishop in the exercise of his responsibilities towards the Superintendent's Office and the Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese.
2. Serves on the Board of Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese and chairs it at the request of the Archbishop.
3. Reviews and approves programs, speakers and publications in the realm of catechetics or religious education before these are promoted or sponsored by schools.



E. Reserved Matters

1. To permit the use of the title “Catholic” by a school, university or other entity
2. To create or confer any ecclesiastical office.

F. Term

The term of this office is three (3) years from the date of appointment.

**Approved: Solemnity of the Assumption
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
August 15, 2019**

+ J. Michael Miller CSB
† J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver

The following policy is hereby superseded:
Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools issued April 23, 2013.