

Cardinal James Francis Stafford

Major Penitentiary



PERSONAL AND FAMILY INFORMATION

Born: July 26, 1932

Birthplace: Baltimore, Maryland

Parents: Francis E. and Mary Dorothy Stanton Stafford

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Academic Degrees Earned:

- M.S.W., The Catholic University of America, Washington
- S.T.L., Gregorian University, Rome

Theologate:

- North American College/Gregorian University, Rome

PRIESTLY ORDINATION

Ordained to the priesthood on December 15, 1957 for the Archdiocese of Baltimore

EPISCOPAL APPOINTMENTS

Appointed Titular Bishop of Respecta and Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore on January 19, 1976
Ordained February 29, 1976

Subsequently appointed Bishop of Memphis on November 16, 1982
Installed January 18, 1983

Subsequently appointed Archbishop of Denver on June 3, 1986
Installed July 31, 1986

CARDINALATIAL CREATION

Elevation to the College of Cardinals announced: January 18, 1998

Date of Consistory at which Pope John Paul II created him Cardinal: February 21, 1998

Deaconry: Jesus, the Good Shepherd at Montagnola

Rank: Cardinal-Deacon¹

VATICAN CURIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Congregation for Bishops

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

Congregation for Causes of Saints

Pontifical Council for the Interpretation of Legislative Texts

VATICAN SERVICE

President, Pontifical Council for the Laity, 1996-2003

Major Penitentiary, October 3, 2003 to the present

¹ Canon 350, paragraph 1, states: "The College of Cardinals is divided into three ranks: the episcopal rank, which consists of both the cardinals to whom the Roman Pontiff assigns the title of a suburbicarian church and the oriental patriarchs who have become members of the college of cardinals; the presbyteral rank; and the diaconal rank."