

Newly Published Diocesan Policies

Effective August 8, 2011 the following changes have been introduced into the *Diocesan Policy* as a result of the newly published and reorganized USCCB website www.usccb.org:

Art. 1242 – PRINTED POLITICAL MATERIALS AND ELECTIONEERING....

§3. Additionally, no church property may be used for partisan electioneering purposes by political candidates. However parishes can hold nonpartisan candidate forums, parish voter education programs, and voter registration drives on church property. Practical advice as to how to conduct such activities can be found in the Faithful Citizenship website sponsored by the USCCB: www.faithfulcitizenship.org....

Art. 2020 – FISCAL MANAGEMENT OF PARISHES/MISSIONS....

§12. TAX EXEMPT STATUS: The Diocese of Alexandria corporation, its subsidiaries and all parish corporations and their subsidiaries, as non-profit religious organizations, are recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) and receives this exemption annually through Group Ruling #0928 of the United States Catholic Conference See <http://new.usccb.org/about/general-counsel/group-tax-exemption.cfm>....

Effective July 1, 2011 the following changes have been introduced by Bishop Herzog in the *Diocesan Policy*:

Art. 1100 – COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS OF CLERGY

§1. Monthly Compensation for Clergy Assigned in the Diocese of Alexandria

FY 2011-2012		
Pastors & Parochial Vicars	Earned Income	\$1,555.00
	Professional Expense Allowance	485.00
	TOTAL COMPENSATION CHECK	\$2,040.00
Transitional Deacons	Earned Income	\$685.00
	Professional Expense Allowance	485.00
	TOTAL COMPENSATION CHECK	\$1,170.00

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§5. Other Payments to or for Any Assigned Priest

1° For parish and diocesan ministry a priest or transitional deacon is reimbursed monthly at the IRS “Standard Mileage Rate” (55.5¢ per mile as July 1, 2011). To obtain reimbursement for this mileage a written record must be submitted monthly (COA #7021). This amount is also reported by secular priests as a reimbursement on IRS Form 2106; it is NOT reported on his W-2, however.

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9° At the death of a priest, the Diocese provides his funeral expenses. The funeral expenses are limited to the costs of services included in a package arranged through Kramer Funeral Home (for FY 2011-2012 this amount is \$14,000). Details about the package may be obtained from the Diocesan Business Office. The estate of a priest utilizing the services of homes or places not included in this package will be reimbursed up to this amount for documented funeral expenses....

Art. 1105 – RETIREMENT COMPENSATION OF PRIESTS

§1. Monthly Compensation for Retired Priests

FY 2011-2012	
Retirement Benefit	\$ 455.00
Housing Allowance	1,475.00
TOTAL MONTHLY COMPENSATION CHECK	\$1,930.00

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3° The total amount will be increased yearly until parity is achieved with those in active ministry.

§2. Other Payments to or for a Retired and Unassigned Priest....

5° At the death of a priest, the Diocese provides his funeral expenses. The funeral expenses are limited to the costs of services included in a package arranged through Kramer Funeral Home (for FY 2011-2012 this amount is \$14,000). Details about the package may be obtained from the Diocesan Business Office. The estate of a priest utilizing the services of homes or places not included in this package will be reimbursed up to this amount for documented funeral expenses.

Art. 2020 – FISCAL MANAGEMENT OF PARISHES/MISSIONS...

§4. ALIENATION: For validity, the Pastor must have the written recommendations of the parish pastoral council and the parish finance council and the written consent of the Diocesan Bishop for all acts of extraordinary administration (canon 1277) or “alienation” (canon 1292, §1) of real property or the goods of the Parish, School or other entity when the maximum limit of his authority will be exceeded. Alienation includes sales, loans, leases or expenditures for property,

construction and improvement projects (including those funded by others). The maximum limit of a pastor's authority is \$25,000 or 5% of a parish's previous fiscal year's taxable income, whichever is higher....

§7. PARISH ASSESSMENT POLICY: Parish/Mission assessments are based on the prior twelve (12) month's assessable income as reported on the parish/mission quarterly financial reports for the quarters ending June 30th, September 30th, December 31st and March 31st of the previous year.

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3° The following tax schedule provides for calculation of the assessments on an annual basis.

Annual Assessable Income	Assessment Rate
Less than \$15,000	5%
\$15,000 - \$19,999	5 %
\$20,000 - \$29,999	5.5%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	6.5%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	7.5%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	11%
\$60,000 - \$69,999	12%
\$70,000 - \$79,999	13%
\$80,000 - \$89,999	14%
\$90,000+	15%