

§1200 THE PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL

§1201 IN GENERAL

1201.1. Policy There shall be a Presbyteral Council in the Archdiocese of Chicago, which is convened and presided over by the Archbishop. (Canon 500).

1201.2. Policy The Presbyteral Council shall have and maintain a Constitution and By-Laws.

Note

As of the effective date of these policies and procedures, the current Constitution and By-Laws were revised as of January 6, 1994 and confirmed by Archbishop George on May 8, 1997.

1201.3. Policy The Constitution of the Presbyteral Council may be amended by the presbyterate by a two-thirds majority of those voting by a mailed ballot, provided that the following procedures are observed and the Archbishop approves the proposed amendment in writing, or, if no action is taken by him within fourteen (14) days after Council approval, then it will be considered as having his approval.

Procedures

- a) Any proposed amendment must be filed with the Constitution Committee at least thirty (30) days before it is submitted to the members of the Council.
- b) Such proposed amendment must contain the signature of the proposer, together with the signatures of ten (10) other members of the presbyterate who favor the proposed amendment.
- c) Copies of the proposed amendment will be mailed by the Secretary to each of the members of the Council.
- d) The Council must approve the proposed amendment by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.
- e) The Archbishop must either approve the proposed amendment in writing, or, if no action is taken by him within fourteen (14) days after Council approval, then it will be considered as having his approval.

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- f) A letter setting forth the proposed amendment and a ballot for approval or rejection will be mailed to all members of the presbyterate; said ballots must be returned with fifteen (15) days of mailing.
- g) Said ballots must be opened and counted at the next regular meeting of the Council or at a special meeting called for that purpose, and the results proclaimed as to whether the amendment has failed to be approved or has been passed by the required two-thirds majority.

1201.4. Policy By-laws of the Constitution of the Presbyteral Council may be added, changed or deleted by a majority of members present and voting at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Council provided that notice of the proposed change has been sent to the members of the Council at least one month prior to the meeting at which it will be voted upon.

§1202 PURPOSE

1202.1. Policy The purposes of the Presbyteral Council shall be:

- (1) to participate in the decision-making process in the Archdiocese;
- (2) to assist the Archbishop in all matters affecting pastoral welfare and the governance of the Archdiocese as the consultative body representing all priests;
- (3) to promote greater communication, cooperation and collaboration among the Archbishop, Priests, and Pastoral Offices and Agencies of the Archdiocese;
- (4) to foster a stronger bond of fraternity among all priests, and further a consciousness of their unity with the Archbishop;
- (5) to seek participation of the presbyterate in the pastoral concerns of the Council;
- (6) to engage in those activities and programs necessary to implement the aforementioned purposes.