

## §100 THE MISSION OF DIOCESAN PRIESTS

*As Jesus commissioned the apostles to “go and make disciples of all the nations” (Matthew 28:16), so priests are sent by the diocesan bishop to continue Christ’s mission. The diocesan priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago, aware of their unity with their Archbishop, his Auxiliary Bishops and with one another in the priesthood of Christ, form one Presbyterate and one brotherhood in the service of the People of God, and are called to fulfill the official pastoral ministry of the Church.*

*The Diocesan Priests’ Personnel System is a mission-based approach to ministry, whereby the priests of the Archdiocese collaborate with the Archbishop to answer Christ’s call of conscientious service to the People of God.*

## §101 CALL AND MISSION

**101.1. Policy** The diocesan priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago receive their mission for priestly ministry from the Archbishop of Chicago, who makes the assignment of priests in consultation with The Diocesan Priests’ Placement Board, the Episcopal Vicars, Deans, other priests and lay members of the Christian faithful. (cf. Vatican Council II, *Christus Dominus* 28-31; *Ecclesiae Sanctae* I, 18; *Code of Canon Law*, canons 157, 523-524, 539, 547, 557 and 565.)

## §102 DIOCESAN PRIESTS’ PERSONNEL SYSTEM

*The Diocesan Priests’ Personnel System will be composed of the Priests’ Placement Board in cooperation with the Episcopal Council and others. The Diocesan Priests’ Personnel System is part of the Department of Personnel Services.*

### §102.1. Priests’ Placement Board

**102.1. Policy** The Priests’ Placement Board shall be chaired by a member of the Board who is elected by the members of the Board. The Board shall work closely with the Episcopal Council, the Vicar(s) for Priests, the Archbishop’s Delegate for Extern and International Priests and others, as needed, to recruit and recommend diocesan priests to the Archbishop for placement in assignments throughout the Archdiocese in accord with established policies.

#### **Procedures**

a) **Membership.** The membership of the Diocesan Priests' Placement Board shall consist of nine members. Six members shall be elected by the priests of the Archdiocese, five of whom will be part-time and one of whom will be full-time. Three members, who will be part-time, shall be appointed by the Archbishop.

b) **Executive Secretary**. The full-time member of the Board shall serve as Executive Secretary.

c) **Personnel Planner**. In order to assist the Board in its work, a personnel planner shall identify the anticipated vacancies in parishes and plan the placement schedule accordingly.

### **§102.2. Episcopal Council**

**102.2. Policy** The Episcopal Council, consisting of the Archbishop, his Vicar General and regional Episcopal Vicars, shall meet regularly with the Priests' Placement Board to address the general personnel needs of the Archdiocese. Specifically, the Episcopal Council and the Priests' Placement Board, in consultation with the Vicar(s) for Priests, the Archbishop's Delegate for Extern and International Priests and others, as needed, shall review all priest openings in parishes and recommend to the Archbishop the best use of priest personnel resources in responding to pastoral needs; consider current and future personnel needs of parishes, seminaries, Pastoral Center agencies, and other ministerial projects and apostolic activities.

## **§103 STRUCTURE AND OPERATION**

### **§103.1. Joint Meetings of the Episcopal Council and Priests' Placement Board**

**103.1. Policy** The joint meetings of the Episcopal Council and the Priests' Placement Board, in conjunction with the Vicar(s) for Priests, the Archbishop's Delegate for Extern and International Priests and others, as needed, shall be chaired by the Vicar General, with the Archbishop presiding. With the assistance of the Executive Secretary of the Priests' Placement Board, the Vicar General shall provide regular reports to the Archbishop concerning staffing needs of parishes, seminaries, Pastoral Center agencies, and other ministerial projects and apostolic activities.

#### ***Procedures***

Others to consult may include persons such as the local Dean and the Directors of the Offices of Religious, Asian Catholics, Hispanic Catholics, European Catholics, etc.