

§1300 RETIRED PRIESTS

§1301 GENERAL POLICIES FOR RETIREES

The Presbyteral Council fully supports the notion of senior ministry and encourages our priests who have reached the age of 70, and in accord with diocesan regulations have resigned from the pastorate or some other administrative or associate position, to continue to exercise other forms of priestly ministry to the extent they choose and are physically able.

§1301.1. Pensions and Housing

1301.1. Policy All Archdiocesan Priests upon retirement shall be entitled to a pension varying in amount according to age at retirement and place of residence. They also shall have the right to adequate housing in a parish or Archdiocesan institution.

§1301.2. Estate and Planning

1301.2. Policy By the time of retirement, all priests shall have an estate plan.

Procedures

An estate plan must include:

- a) A current will.
- b) A power of attorney for health care, a power of attorney for property or other such legal devices to take care of him during serious illness or incapacity.
- c) Such other legal devices as a living trust, annuity, etc., as the priest, in conjunction with an estate planner, deem appropriate to care for his financial matters.
- d) A personal inventory sheet filed with the Pastoral Center.

§1301.3. Professional Allowance

1301.3. Policy The retired priest shall receive the annual professional growth allowance determined by the *Diocesan Priests Benefits Archdiocese of Chicago*. This money shall be used for retreats, continuing education, books, workshops, etc.

Procedures

The professional allowance is usually paid by the parish or institution from which the priest retired. If no funds are available, the Priests' Retirement and Mutual Aid Association (PRMAA) will reimburse the retired priest annually upon submission of an itemized list of expenditures.

§1302 RETIRING PASTOR DECIDING TO LIVE IN THE RECTORY OF THE PARISH FROM WHICH HE RETIRES

§1302.1. Residence

1302.1. Policy The retiring pastor, at the time of his retirement, shall have the option of staying in the rectory or in other residence located on the parish grounds of the parish from which he is retiring, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) There is space available.
- (2) He vacates the pastor's quarters.
- (3) He does not have any health problems which demand extraordinary care, and --
- (4) The first three conditions are verified by the Vicar for Senior Priests and the Vicars for Priests.
- (5) Upon the arrival of the new pastor, the retiring pastor shall leave the parish for three months.

A Board, made up of the Vicar for Senior Priests, his Ombudsman, the local Vicar, the Vicars for Priests, and the local Dean shall evaluate and decide the continuous residence of the Emeritus in the event there is some conflict.

Procedures

- a) The room and board of the retired pastor is part of his retirement pension. It is compensation for past, not present services. All ordinary services should be provided, such as laundry, room cleaning, secretarial, private phone for local calls and a garage, if available. The retired priest should also be compensated for meals which are not provided by the rectory/institution. (See *Diocesan Priests Benefits Archdiocese of Chicago*)
- b) The retired pastor is free from all assignments. How far he wishes to be involved in parish ministry should be clarified in each individual case. Other priests in the house should not presume that he is willing to be "on call" simply because he will be on hand.
- c) The retired pastor is entitled to the usual visitor compensation for Sunday and Holy Day assistance and Confessional assistance, etc.
- d) The retired pastor must not take for granted that his successor understands his willingness to work, but should make known his desire to help and the extent to which he is willing to help.
- e) The retired pastor should be made to feel the rectory is his home and that he is free to invite his friends.

- f) The retired pastor should understand that the administration of the parish is no longer his concern, and must be left to the new pastor. He should do everything he can to support the new pastor. He should also help to make the rectory a happy home.

§1303 THE RETIRING PASTOR LIVING IN A PARISH RECTORY OTHER THAN THE ONE FROM WHICH HE RETIRED

§1303.1. Residence

1303.1. Policy The retiring pastor who chooses to live in a rectory other than the one from which he retired or an Archdiocesan institution shall be free to make arrangements with a pastor or administrator who is willing to receive him into some other parish or Archdiocesan institution.

Procedures

- a) If difficulty is encountered in finding such a parish or Archdiocesan institution, the retiring pastor may consult with the Vicar for Senior Priests and seek his assistance. The parish or institution which receives the retiring pastor is entitled to and will receive a sum of money equal to the priest's pension as compensation for room and board. The sum of money will be in keeping with the scale determined by the Priests' Retirement and Mutual Aid Association.
- b) The procedures in §1302 apply here.

§1304 RETIRING NON-PASTORS

§1304.1. Residence

1304.1. Policy Upon the completion of a five or more year tenure, associate pastors, teachers or agency priests shall have the option to remain in the rectory or institution of their last appointment subject to the following conditions:

- (1) There is space available.
- (2) They do not have any health problems which demand extraordinary care.
- (3) Their stay is acceptable to the pastor or administrator.

Procedures

- a) The retiring non-pastor who does not have such an option as mentioned in Policy 1304.1. should have the assistance of the Vicar for Senior Priests in finding a suitable place to live.
- b) The parish or Archdiocesan institution will receive a sum equal to the priests' pension as compensation for room and board.
- c) The procedures in §1302 apply here.

§1305 COMPENSATION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS SERVING AS PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATORS

1305.1. Policy If a retired priest is appointed administrator of a parish, his pension benefits shall remain unchanged and, in addition, he shall be entitled to receive from the parish a full pastor's compensation, with the appropriate seniority increments corresponding to the number of years of priestly service since ordination; however, the seniority increment corresponding to the number of years of priestly service since ordination shall not accrue beyond the age of seventy.

§1306 VICAR FOR SENIOR PRIESTS

§1306.1. Ministerial Services

1306.1. Policy The office of the Vicar for Senior Priests shall provide several personal ministerial services to the retired priests of the Archdiocese.

Procedures

- a) "Sursum Corda" is a monthly newsletter providing news bits, wit, humor, and birthday remembrances for Senior Priests.
- b) An open-listing of housing for Senior Priests seeking a specific ministry setting is kept by the Office.

- c) Birthday cards, golf outings and annual gatherings with the Archbishop are arranged through the Office.
- d) In cases of dispute in a parish setting, the Vicar and Assistant Vicar have been designated by the Presbyteral Council to facilitate an acceptable arrangement or proceed to a formal process for reconciliation.

§1306.2. Medicare

1306.2. Policy Priests not participating in Social Security and thus not eligible for Medicare Part A & B at retirement, shall be required to pay the difference in costs (monthly) of the current rate for Medicare Part A and the Archdiocesan insurance premium. This policy, because of grandfathering, shall not affect anyone until 1997.

§1307 SABBATICALS

1307.1. Policy The policies regarding Sabbaticals for retired priests shall be the same as those for all diocesan priests. (§505 *Sabbatical Program*)

Procedures

The following guidelines apply to retired priests requesting a sabbatical. These guidelines have been jointly established by the Sabbatical Board and the Priests' Retirement and Mutual Aid Association (PRMAA).

- a) Retired priests should continue to receive their monthly pension check from PRMAA in the same amount as before beginning their sabbatical. The sabbatical does not change the status of such priests.
- b) Supplemental income provided by parishes should be determined by the pastor in consultation with the retired priest. This may vary according to circumstances.
- c) Tuition, room and board costs or their equivalent are paid by the Archdiocese through the Center for Development in Ministry.
- d) Sabbaticals for retirees will only be considered within the first 3 years of retirement (see Policy 505.1(i)).