

§5000 SENIOR PRIESTS

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§5001.1. Senior Priests

5001.1. Policy. A “Senior Priest” is a priest who due to age or resignation may or may not be involved in regular active ministry if agreed upon by the Vicar General and the pastor of the parish in which the Senior Priest plans to reside.

Procedures

1. If a Senior Priest agrees with a parish and the Vicar General to continue regular active ministry in a parish, then the Parish will provide him with residence and amenities. If the parish does not provide residence and amenities, for example, the Senior Priest may have to provide his own residence, then the Senior Priest is offered a suitable remuneration by the Parish for his ministerial involvement.
2. A Senior Priest has various options for residence. He may live in his own home or another place. He may request residence in the rectory of a parish or he may ask to reside in other quarters located on a parish campus. The Senior Priest will provide either ministerial services or may make other arrangements for the reasonable remuneration of the parish for the expenses of his room and board.
3. A Senior Priest may continue to live in the rectory of his last assignment, but if he was the pastor, he will vacate the pastor’s quarters if needed for the new pastor’s residence. The Senior Priest continuing to live in the rectory of his last assignment is also contingent upon the approval of the present pastor, whether there is space available, and the Senior Priest has no health problems that demand assisted care. If the Senior Priest is living alone, he will provide payment for cable services, internet costs, newspaper or other personal expenses. The Senior Priest’s stay will be renegotiated if the new or present pastor moves. These conditions shall all be verified by the Delegate for Senior Priests or in his absence, the Vicar General. The Vicar General is designated to facilitate an acceptable arrangement between parish and Senior Priest. Any remodeling, additions or purchases must follow the normal process. It is not assumed that a parish will modify its facilities to accommodate a Senior Priest.
4. If a Senior Priest chooses to live in a residence other than the one of his last assignment, then he is free to make arrangements with a pastor who is willing to receive him into his parish facilities. The following conditions will apply:
 - a. There is space available.

- b. The Senior Priest's stay is approved by the Pastor in writing, but it must be renegotiated if the Pastor moves. If the Senior Priest is living alone, he will provide payment for cable services, internet costs, newspaper or other personal expenses.
- c. The Senior Priest has no health problems that demand assisted care.

The foregoing conditions must be verified by the Delegate for Senior Priests or in his absence, the Vicar General.

- 5. The Senior Priest may consult with Delegate for Senior Priests, or in his absence, the Vicar General, in finding a residence in a parish or diocesan institution if the Senior Priest is unable or unwilling to engage in ministerial services. When an arrangement is made, the parish or diocesan institution is due compensation for residence. All other matters are subject to negotiation.
- 6. The following compensation is due a Senior Priest:
 - a. A Senior Priest is to receive room and board from the parish of residence when he provides ministerial service plus:
 - i) he is to receive an amount for each parish he actively serves that is equal to the amount added to the Expense Allowance for Parochial Vicars for each additional parish they serve as specified in the Decree for Compensation for Priests and,
 - ii) he is to receive the stipends for Masses offered according to diocesan and provincial norms.
 - b. A Senior Priest who performs supply ministry is to receive compensation according to the Guidelines for Compensation for Visiting or Substitute Priests as published each year with the Decree for Compensation for Priests.