

**SCHEDULE OF SACRAMENTAL OFFERINGS**Stole Fees

Stole Fees refer to the offerings received by the parish for baptisms, weddings, funerals and quinceañeras. All stole fees are to be turned over to the general parish account (c. 1267 §1). In consultation with the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese, the bishop has decreed that the suggested offerings, above which no one may ask except by permission of the bishop, are as follows:

Baptism: from \$0 to \$50  
 Wedding: from \$0 to \$250  
 Funeral: from \$0 to \$200  
 Quinceañera: from \$0 to \$200  
 Confirmations: from \$0 to \$250 per Confirmation Mass

Of these offerings (and not in addition to them) the parish may share with the Presider at the Pastor's direction the following amounts:

Baptism: \$25  
 Wedding: \$100  
 Funeral: \$100  
 Quinceañera: \$100

*c. 1267§1: Unless the contrary is established, the offerings given to the superiors or administrators of any ecclesiastical juridic person, even to a private one, are presumed to be given to that juridic person.*

*c. 848: The minister should ask nothing for the administration of the sacraments beyond the offerings defined by the competent authority, always being careful that the needy are not deprived of the help of the sacraments because of their poverty.*

*c. 213: The Christian faithful have the right to receive assistance from the sacred pastors out of the spiritual goods of the Church, especially the word of God and the sacraments.*

It is important to avoid even the appearance of trafficking in sacraments or sacramentals. The poor should never be denied the benefit of these merely because they cannot make the voluntary offering (c. 848), since this could be seen as denying their rights to the spiritual assistance necessary for salvation (c. 213). Pastoral sensitivity also needs to be extended to "marginal Catholics." The occasion of the sacrament may be a teachable moment.

Any stole fees received by priests are free will offerings but are taxable under IRS regulations.

If parishes have additional expenses such as books, candles, fees for the choir, marriage preparation or the reception area used, such fees may be itemized and charged separately. However the ordinary sacramental or funeral preparation extended to persons should be a part of expected ministry and not be a purchased service.

The fees listed above are suggested amounts and may vary from parish to parish depending on a prudent analysis of the actual costs in terms of heating, electricity, cleaning, etc. incurred by the parish for these events. At no time, however, shall stole fees exceed the amounts listed without the express written permission of the bishop.

Some churches, because of the historical significance, their location, or their charm might be requested by non-parishioners for marriages. A rental fee may be set for these, an amount adequate to cover the expenses and depreciation incurred for both the rehearsal and the ceremony.