

DEACONS' COUNCIL GUIDELINES

- A. A Deacons' Council is established for the well-being of the Deacons' Community. It will:
1. Plan and implement an active continuing formation and education program including annual retreats and general meetings.
 2. Act as a consultative body for deacons with the Director of Deacons and the bishop.
 3. Develop a deacon formation program for candidates to the diaconate.
- B. Membership
1. There will be five (5) members on the council appointed by the bishop.
 2. The bishop and the Director of Deacons are ex-officio members of the council.
 3. Nominations will be gathered from the Deacons' Community for those who will serve on the council. An attempt will be made to have representation from each vicariate.
 4. Those nominations will be forwarded to the bishop who will make the appointments.
- C. Officers
1. The chairman is elected by the council. He presides at the quarterly meetings and oversees all the activities of the council.
 2. The secretary is elected by the council, records the proceedings of each meeting, and handles correspondence.
- D. Terms of Office
1. The members, elected chairman and secretary will serve for three years.
 2. At the end of each term, new nominations will again be presented to the bishop.
- E. Meeting Times
1. The council will meet at least once a quarter.
 2. A quorum will consist of three (3) members.
- F. Specific Responsibilities of the Council
1. The council will plan the annual retreat.
 2. The council will plan a yearly continuing education weekend and other appropriate events.

3. The council will review and suggest changes to diocesan deacon policy before it is approved by the bishop.
4. The council brings to the attention of the Director of Deacons and the bishop the needs of the community of deacons.