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**DETERMINATION OF DIOCESAN ASSESSMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIOCESAN
CANONS**

RESOLVED: That the annual budgets drafted by the Diocesan Finance Committee shall be in accordance with Canon 7.2.1.1, determining, among other projected expenses, the amount of funds needed:

- For the support of the episcopate during the ensuing year (7.2.1.1.1)
- To operate and maintain Diocesan Offices, the expenses of the Bishop’s Office and staff (7.2.1.1.5)
- To support the missions and ministries of the Diocese (7.2.1.1.6)

And determining projected revenue from the following sources, among others:

- An assessment upon the parishes, missions and chapels of the diocese in such manner as the Diocesan Convention shall direct in support of the episcopate....(7.2.1.2.2), and
- Voluntary pledges of support by the parishes and missions of the Diocese through a regular allocation of their income.

EXPLANATION: In recent years, the Finance Committee has submitted an annual Diocesan budget with a single mandatory assessment (the “Sacred Ask”) which funds the episcopate and Diocesan missions and ministries, and required the parishes to contribute accordingly.

However, the “Sacred Ask” is contrary to the intent and letter of the Canons of the Diocese.

The Canons clearly separate projected expenditures related to the episcopate, Diocesan Offices, and Bishop’s staff, from expenditures to support Diocesan mission and ministries. And similarly, the Canons clearly separate projected revenues to support the episcopate, which are funded through a mandatory assessment, from projected revenues to support mission and ministries, which are to be funded by voluntary contributions from the parishes.

The prescribed practice of (1) assessing each parish a mandatory amount to fund the episcopate, and (2) asking each parish for a voluntary contribution of an additional amount to fund the missions and ministries of the Diocese, should be reinstated for Fiscal Year 2025 and thereafter.

It is our sacred duty to be honest, faithful, and true to the Canons that have been approved.

Implementation Responsibility: Diocesan Canons Committee