



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

5001 EASTERN AVENUE
POST OFFICE BOX 29260
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017

Dear Brother Priests,

It is a pleasure to present the *Priest Personnel Policy* for the Archdiocese of Washington. This policy reflects both the principles enshrined in Church law, as well as the lived experience of this local Church.

Several years ago, in consultation with the Archdiocesan Priest Council, it was determined that our policy needed to include recent developments and current practice. A task force of priests was convened to review the previous personnel policy and to make recommendations, which were reviewed by the Priest Council. This policy is the fruit of that effort, and it is promulgated for use in the Archdiocese of Washington effective June 29, 2010, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul.

As diocesan priests, we encounter the everyday joys and challenges of ministering in the person of Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church. My hope is that this policy will be an effective instrument in helping us carry out our service to God's people. Throughout the policy reference is made to the Secretariat for Ministerial Leadership. This office is intended to be a ready reference point for priests relative to the implementation of the policy in the many ways in which it touches our life.

As this policy takes effect, I join you in thanking God for the gift of the priesthood which we share and in asking God's grace that we continue to make ourselves available generously for service in the vineyard of the Lord.

Faithfully in Christ,

Archbishop of Washington

June 19, 2010
The Conclusion
of the Year for Priests