

POLICY No. 7
ASSISTANCE TO PARISHES AND PARISH SURPLUS FUNDS

Assistance to parishes in need and parish surplus fund management is realized through a separate and independent Canadian corporation named **The Parish Assistance Fund of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie. (PAF)**.

1. Term definitions

PAF is to assist parishes faced with aging or deteriorating buildings, dwindling population, or those struggling to raise the funds necessary to build necessary facilities.

2. Intent of the directive

To provide for the efficient operation of the PAF.

3. Policy

- a. The diocese and its component parts recognize that solidarity is an important dimension of life in the Church.
- b. Parishes which have a surplus of funds are called upon to assist other parishes in need by making this surplus available through the **Parish Assistance Fund of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie**.
- c. Deposits bear a return comparable to fair market return and are assessed annually; parishes borrowing money from the PAF pay an annual interest rate on their loans as determined by the board of directors.
- d. A schedule of repayment of loans to the parish assistance fund is established by the board of directors in consultation with the parish pastor incurring the loan. Supplementary payments will be credited against the loan principal. These payments may be made at any time without penalty.
- e. Requests for loans should be submitted to the Chair of the Board of Directors.
- f. A parish may withdraw any part of the monies it has deposited in the fund when funds are needed for its own projects.
- g. Generally speaking, approximately fifty percent (50%) of the annual operating budget should remain in the parish and the balance deposited in the Parish Assistance Fund.

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