

Retirement from Diaconal Ministry

Policy No. PD415

Policy Statement: A deacon may retire at any time for reasons of health or family circumstances.

A deacon approaching his 75th year must offer his resignation, in writing, to the Archbishop who, after considering the good of the deacon as well as that of the Archdiocese, will accept or defer the retirement.

Definition: Retirement from diaconal ministry means resignation from an office, assignments, duties or responsibilities associated with the diaconate; not retirement from Holy Orders.

Procedure:

- a) The deacon's written request for retirement is to be sent to the Vicar for Clergy with a copy to the Office of the Permanent Diaconate.
- b) The requested date for retirement should be sufficiently foreseen so that there is time for review and discussion. Someone in good health and able to continue in his ministry might well be requested to postpone his retirement.
- c) If the request is accepted, the deacon, at retirement, will no longer be required to meet the stipulations for an active deacon regarding his ministerial assignment and continuing education.