

## **Priests' Auto Replacement Grant Fund**

Payments of \$1,000 per year will be made to the Priests' Auto Replacement Grant Fund, administered by the Diocesan Finance Department, on behalf of Diocesan and Religious Order priests on active assignment. Such deposits are made in semi-annual payments of \$500 each.

If a priest is assigned to more than one parish or mission, contributions may be divided among his assignments.

With few exceptions, contributions for Religious Order priests are included in the Fund, with payments sent to the Order only if the Order provides the priest a vehicle.

A parish or mission is responsible for the first-half payment for any priests assigned there on March 1, and the second-half payment for any priests assigned there on September 1.

If a priest is new to the Diocese and does not have an assignment on March 1 or September 1, upon his first assignment, the Diocese will process the first- or second-half payment of \$500 on his behalf. Such deposits will be made from the forfeit fund (see below) when there is a balance; when there is no balance in the forfeit fund, the Diocese will make the deposit. This policy update is effective March, 2023, and will not be applied retroactively.

The Auto Replacement Grant Fund is a Diocesan benefit. Any unused balance upon death remains an asset of the Diocese (forfeit fund) and is not included in the decedent's estate.

Withdrawals from the Priests' Auto Replacement Grant Fund are a taxable event. Such withdrawals are paid via payroll check as earnings, and will be included in the W2 total for the calendar year of the withdrawal.

If a priest wishes to use his Auto Replacement Grant Fund balance to lease a vehicle, he is entitled to withdraw the cost of fulfilling the lease, up to his balance in the Fund. At the end of the lease term, any buyout or balance due is the priest's personal responsibility; he may not withdraw additional funds until purchasing or leasing another vehicle.