



Clergy Attendance Policy

Clergy Attendance at Annual Retreat and Diocesan Convention

Purpose:

This policy outlines the expectations for parochial clergy attendance at the annual diocesan retreat and the annual diocesan convention. The purpose of this policy is to promote the well-being of the clergy through corporate worship, prayer, and study, and to ensure full participation in the governance and spiritual life of the Episcopal Church in Idaho.

Scope:

This policy applies to all parochial clergy canonically resident in or licensed to officiate within the Diocese of Idaho.

Policy Statements:

1. Annual Clergy Retreat:

All parochial clergy is expected to attend the annual diocesan clergy retreat. This retreat is a vital opportunity for spiritual renewal, shared prayer, theological reflection, and fostering collegiality among the clergy.

2. Annual Diocesan Convention:

All parochial clergy is expected to attend the annual Diocesan Convention. The Convention is the primary legislative and deliberative body of the Diocese, where important decisions regarding the mission, ministry, and governance of the Episcopal Church in Idaho are made. Clergy participation is essential for the healthy functioning and corporate life of the Diocese.

Exceptions:

Attendance at the annual clergy retreat and the annual Diocesan Convention is mandatory unless an explicit excuse is granted by the Bishop of Idaho. Requests for an excuse must be submitted in writing to the Bishop's office in advance of the event, stating the reason for the inability to attend. Excuses will be granted only for compelling reasons for a maximum of two consecutive years unless serious illness, family emergency, or other extraordinary circumstances as determined by the Bishop.

Review:

This policy will be reviewed periodically by the Bishop and the Diocesan Council to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.