

Resolution 1: Compensation for Deacons

RESOLVED, at the 185th Convention of the Diocese of Indianapolis (November, 2022) that each parish with a serving deacon pay \$50.00 a month to each of their deacons as remuneration, and that each such parish also make the required contribution of 18% to the Church Pension Fund for the benefit of each such deacon. Additionally, in the event that a small parish cannot afford to compensate a deacon, the diocese will provide all or part of the deacon's compensation.

Proposed by The Deacons of the Diocese of Indianapolis and submitted by Connie Pepler.

Consideration of this resolution requires the consent of convention.

Explanation: Deacons in the diocese of Indianapolis serve in their parish and in the Diocese without remuneration.

However, the lack of compensation prevents deacons from accessing benefits through the Church Pension Group. One must be a contributor to the Church Pension fund in order to access such benefits which include CREDO conferences that address spiritual, physical and financial well-being, life insurance and educational services.

At recent conferences, representatives of the Church Pension Fund have stated that if deacons were paid a nominal amount, those deacons would be eligible for access to these benefits.

Compensation will be provided to any deacon serving unless declined by the deacon for various reasons. However, per CPG rules, retirement contributions cannot be made for any clergy age 72 or older.

The proposed amendment asks that congregations make such nominal payment of \$50.00 a month to deacons, as well as a payment of 18% to the Church Pension Fund to enable them to participate in programs and benefits available through the Church Pension Fund.