

Deans and Vice Deans

Policy No. 401

Policy Statement: Deaneries are to be established in the Archdiocese (c. 374, §2) and a dean and vice-dean are to be elected for each deanery (c. 553, §2).

Only pastors and associate pastors are eligible for election as deans or vice-deans.

Intent of Policy: To ensure that common pastoral action is promoted and coordinated with the priests in the neighbouring parishes (c. 553, §1).

To build up the life of the community of priests in the deanery and care for their spiritual and physical wellbeing (c. 555, §2, 2°).

To provide a means to resolve any issues that arise in a deanery before they are taken to the level of the Archbishop.

Definitions: A deanery is several neighbouring parishes that are grouped and joined together (c. 374, §2).

A dean is a priest that has the responsibility for oversight of a deanery (c. 553, §1).

- Procedure:**
- a) A dean serves for a term of three years, renewable (c. 554, §2).
 - b) Each year the priests of the deanery are to meet to elect a dean and vice-dean for their deanery should the office be vacant or their term has expired (c. 497, §1).
 - c) The names of the newly elected dean and vice-dean are to be submitted to the Archbishop for confirmation (cc. 147; 554, §1).
 - d) If both the dean and vice-dean positions become vacant before their terms have expired, the deanery will elect a dean and vice-dean to fill the vacancies for the remaining term of office.