



United in Faith, Hope and Love

PRIESTLY RESIDENCE: Model Policy For Use By Parishes

1. Prior to a priest permitting a long-term non-cleric resident to stay in our Parish Rectory, the Pastor or Parochial Administrator must notify our Parish Board of Trustees in writing.¹
2. No person may reside or stay overnight at the Parish Rectory if to do so would have the appearance of, or give rise to, scandal under Canon Law.²
3. Minors, unless they are relatives of one of the assigned residents, are not permitted to stay overnight in the rectory. Minors may never share the same sleeping room with a priest, transitional deacon or seminarian.
4. Rectory residents, including assigned clerics, are responsible for paying their share for damage caused by themselves, their pets and visitors.

Definitions. For the purpose of this policy only:

“Rectory” shall mean the parish owned or rented residence designated for occupancy by the pastor or other priests.

“Parish” shall mean the ecclesiastical community of the faithful that is established as a juridic person under the authority of the Archbishop, and which is incorporated as a church corporation under MN Statute §315.15.

“Long-Term” shall mean residents whose stay at the rectory exceeds two weeks.

¹ See Settlement Agreement dated December 12, 2015 between the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and Ramsey County Attorney. Ramsey County District Court File No.: 62-JV-15-1674; County Attorney File No.: 2138749. “The Archdiocese shall develop a model policy for use by Parishes requiring notification to the board of trustees of a Parish where clergy are permitting long-term residents in rectories. The Archbishop shall request that the Parish board of trustees adopt the model policy.”

² See 1983 Code of Canon Law, Canon 277.