

PAROCHIAL FEES 2013

From 1st January 2013 there will be significant changes to the nature, level, ownership and destination of parochial fees. Each Diocese is now responsible for managing these changes, which are laid down in the General Synod Order GS Misc 1015. Consideration has also been given to the recommendations and advice passed to each Diocese by the Archbishops' Council. These changes also present an opportunity to provide clarity to all involved and to promote good practice across the Diocese.

THE KEY CHANGES ARE AS FOLLOWS

- All Fees should be justifiable on the basis of a relationship to actual costs incurred.
- Fees should be as inclusive as possible, leaving "extras" to apply **only to those items over which people have a genuine choice.**
- Fees will be increasing.
- The fee previously known as "Payable Towards Stipend of Incumbent" shown in the first column of the Table of Parochial Fees is now to be known as the "Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) Fee" and is the property of the Southwell & Nottingham Diocesan Board of Finance. This "DBF" portion will go straight towards the payment of stipends of parish clergy.

PAYMENTS TO SUBSTITUTE MINISTERS

At present, all retired clergy who have the Bishop's Permission to Officiate, are entitled to retain a proportion of the "incumbent's fee".

From 1st January 2013, such retired clergy will be entitled to 50% of the "Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) Fee". The new level of fees will be the same as, or greater than, the present level that retired clergy are entitled to, with the exception of payments for a funeral service in church (with burial in Churchyard immediately preceding or following on). This portion of the fee will continue to be at the present rate of £57.00 and will be maintained until such time as 50% of the new DBF Fee is equal to or greater than this.

From 1st April 2013 in addition to retired clergy (as above) with Permission to Officiate, all licensed self-supporting ministers and licensed readers will be eligible to claim 50% of the statutory fee for weddings and funerals as appropriate.

An Appendix to the Table of Parochial Fees has been produced, "**the Diocesan Table of Apportionment of Fees**", to show how the "Fee Payable to the Diocesan Board of Finance" is to be apportioned between the Diocesan Board of Finance and substitute ministers.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Detailed information is contained in the Diocesan Regulations & Guidelines.

More general information on fees, and in particular the PCC element of the Fee, is available from the Church of England website.

Information is also available from the Diocesan Office.