

# **Policy Regarding Attached Clergy in the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America**

Every priest and deacon must be either canonically ASSIGNED or ATTACHED to the holy table in a particular church temple.

A - A priest or deacon who is ASSIGNED by the Diocesan Bishop to minister to a particular congregation is likewise canonically ASSIGNED to the holy table in that church temple. An assigned priest or deacon is herein after referred to as the Parish Priest or the Parish Deacon.

1. A Parish Priest has specific duties and responsibilities in the parish which are outlined in the holy Scriptures, sacred Canons, the Patriarchal Constitution, the Archdiocesan "Priest's Guide," the Parish Constitution, etc.
2. A Parish Deacon has specific duties and responsibilities in the parish which are outlined in the holy Scriptures and the sacred Canons; he fulfills those and all others which are assigned to him by the Parish Priest.

B – A priest or deacon who is retired, non-parochial, or on leave-of-absence is ATTACHED by the Diocesan Bishop to the holy table in a particular church temple (most commonly the one in the locale where he resides). The Diocesan Bishop may grant a retired priest the honorific title "Pastor Emeritus" of the parish he served; this title carries with it no duties or responsibilities.

1. An attached priest or deacon has no specific duties or responsibilities in the parish except those which the Parish Priest may ask him to do and which the attached priest or deacon himself is able and willing to do.
2. It is expected that an attached priest or deacon will be present for all divine services. If he will not be present, as a courtesy he should inform the Parish Priest in advance. If on occasion he is invited to visit or serve at another parish, as a courtesy he should first check with his own Parish Priest to see if the parish where he is attached may itself need him on that same date.
3. The proper place for attached clergy during divine services is within the holy place.
4. Attached clergy may serve or co-serve and/or preach at any divine service when invited to do so by the Parish Priest (though for clergy on-leave-of-absence the blessing of the Diocesan Bishop or the Metropolitan is required).
5. The proper attire for attached clergy during divine services at which they will not serve is [cassock and] exorasson, while for divine services they will serve they, of course, will wear the appropriate vestments.
6. When they desire to receive the holy Eucharist, non-serving priests each bless and don the epitachelion at "One is holy. One is Lord ..."
7. When they desire to receive the holy Eucharist, non-serving deacons ask a blessing on and then don the orarion at "One is holy. One is Lord ..."
8. Non-serving clergy receive the holy Eucharist after the celebrating Priest(s) and Deacon(s).
9. If an attached priest or deacon is invited by a layman to participate in a wedding, baptism, funeral, etc., the attached clergyman must direct the layman to request that the Parish Priest issue the invitation.