Housing Allowance Policy

Purpose
The payment of a reasonable, monthly, housing allowance is intended to address those situations where:

a. There is no church owned housing available for occupation by a cleric.
b. A cleric, their spouse or family already own a home within the community.
c. A cleric would prefer to purchase or rent a residence.

Policy
Conditional upon the mutual agreement of the parish and cleric, a reasonable monthly housing allowance may be paid to the cleric instead of occupying church owned housing.

Guidelines
A reasonable housing allowance should be established using the following criteria:

a. The 3 year average, fair market rental value of a three bedroom house in the community in which the cleric will reside.
b. Heat and utilities.

A housing allowance should be fixed for a three year term and revised each three years using the above criteria.

The allowance should be paid monthly together with the monthly stipend.