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TO: Priests and Deacons of the Archdiocese of St. Louis
Administrators of High Schools

FROM: Archbishop Robert J. Carlson

COPY: Dr. Robert Oliveri, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Schools
Marilisa Heiderscheid, Controller

SUBJECT: Remuneration for Visiting Priests

DATE: November 13, 2017

I would like to thank you for the care with which you exercise your ministry. Recently, after hearing from the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council and the Deans of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, I would like to inform you that the following updated guidelines have been established concerning the proper remuneration for visiting priests.

Canon 281.1 of the Code of Canon Law states:

“When clerics dedicate themselves to the ecclesiastical ministry, they deserve a remuneration which is consistent with their condition in accord with the nature of their responsibilities and with the conditions of time and place; this remuneration should enable them to provide for the needs of their own life and for the equitable payment of those whose services they need.”

The recommendations also indicate that travel expenses, when appropriate, should be added to these amounts at the current rate established by the Internal Revenue Service. Consideration for travel reimbursement should be given when a visiting priest travels a significant distance to provide assistance. Mass offerings should also be given directly to the officiating priest.

The following amounts are to be used as guidelines when remuneration is offered for visiting priests:

Sunday Mass	\$60
Weekday Mass	\$40
Confessions	\$25

Thank you for your service to the People of God entrusted to your care. Be assured of my prayers for you and those you serve.