

Some Questions & Answers About Pastoral Center Services

Question:

Why did the Diocese change the format for presenting the annual statement from the complete report to graphs?

Answer:

Because it is helpful to display the income and expenses used for ministry programs, rather than the complete audited statement from Price Waterhouse. This presentation is easier to read in summary form; for example, the third graph explains how each dollar of income is expended. If you would like a complete copy of the Price Waterhouse audited report, send your name and address to the Office of Planning and Management, Diocese of Rochester, 1150 Buffalo Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

Question:

What is the decision-making process of how money is spent in the Diocese?

Answer:

The decision process for the allocation and expenditure of funds in the Diocese is:

1. The Bishop's Financial Advisory Board projects the amount that can be spent in the following fiscal year.
2. After receiving needs from the Diocesan Pastoral Council, the Bishop outlines the overall ministerial direction to be followed in the Diocese. These directions are then communicated to his Division directors for implementation.
3. Once the Department Directors have submitted their program proposals for the coming year, the Division Directors present them to the Ministerial Review Committee.
4. The Ministerial Review Committee scrutinizes in detail these programs and the accompany budget requests.
5. After thorough review of these programs, the MRC forwards its recommendations to the Diocesan Pastoral Council.
6. The Diocesan Pastoral Council evaluates the Diocesan Ministerial Plan along with its Supporting Budget at its spring meeting and then makes its recommendations to Bishop Clark.
7. Bishop Clark reviews the presentation of program and budget and modifies or accepts the recommendation from the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Question:

What was the overall financial position of the Diocese of Rochester for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1981?

Answer:

For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1981, the Diocese of Rochester experienced a surplus of \$109,000.00.

Question:

What can this surplus be attributed to?

Answer:

The surplus was the result of certain factors not anticipated during the original budgeting process. Specifically: (1) The unusual high rates of interest earned on Diocesan short-term investments; (2) The gain experienced from the sale of Diocesan assets.

Question:

How does this Fiscal Year's activity compare with the past experience of the Diocese?

Answer:

For the three Fiscal Years preceding June 30, 1981, the Diocese experienced in 1978, a deficit of \$172,000.00 in 1979, a deficit of \$260,000; and in 1980, a deficit of \$26,000.00.

Question:

In referring to the pie diagram highlighting how each dollar is spent, what items of expense comprise Pastoral subsidies?

Answer:

The Pastoral Subsidy category includes funds transferred to partially supplement ministries directed by groups other than those at the Pastoral Center — such as Campus Ministry, Urban Ministry and the Ecumenical Commission.

Question:

Does the income reported on the graphs for Fiscal year ending June 30, 1981 reflect any special collection gifts forwarded by the parish to the Diocese such as Catholic Relief, Black and Native American Appeal and Campaign for Human Development?

Answer:

Yes, under the income classification "Allocations From Affiliates", only that portion of a Special Collection which has been designated by the ultimate beneficiary to remain at the Diocese has been reflected as income.

Question:

Where is the balance forwarded after the local allocation?

Answer:

All the remaining funds are transmitted on a timely basis to the special collections designated beneficiary, usually on the national level.

Question:

Are all of the funds for which the Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester has direct control and accountability audited on an annual basis?

Answer:

Yes. At the end of each Fiscal Year, all funds for which the Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester has direct control and accountability are audited by the international accounting firm of Price Waterhouse.

Question:

Do the graphic presentations reflect any custodial or restricted fund balances: such as those of Catholic Charities Inc., Priests' Pension Fund, etc?

Answer:

No. The graphs present only the operational activity of the Diocese of Rochester and do not reflect any custodial or restricted funds for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1981.