

Diocese of Worcester  
Office of the Bishop  
49 Elm Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

August 26, 2010

Dear Monsignor / Father,

At their recent meeting, the Bishops of the Boston Province, after consulting the Presbyteral Councils of their respective dioceses, have unanimously decided that the offering to be given for the celebration and application of both an announced Mass and an unannounced Mass is ten dollars (\$10.00).

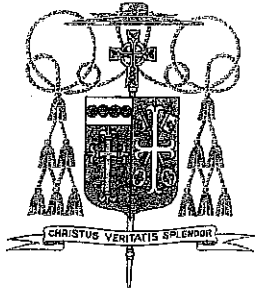
I have decided to implement this change in the Diocese of Worcester.

Therefore, effective immediately, the requested offering for both announced and unannounced Masses is ten dollars.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.  
Bishop of Worcester



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**TO:          DIOCESAN CLERGY**  
**FROM:      BISHOP ROBERT J. MCMANUS**

The Presbyteral Council has been studying the offerings that are requested on the occasion of the celebration of a wedding and funeral in the Diocese of Worcester. As you recall, the Council recently proposed, and I accepted, an increase in the offering for weddings, which became effective August 6, 2009.

Recently, the Council has recommended to me that the offering for a funeral in the church be increased to \$300.00 to compensate more adequately the organist and cantor who provide music during the funeral Mass. I have accepted the Council's recommendation.

Therefore, effective Friday, January 1, 2010, the offering on the occasion of the celebration of a funeral Mass in the Diocese of Worcester is \$300.00 and is to be allocated as follows:

\$100.00 for the organist  
\$100.00 for the cantor  
\$65.00 for the parish  
\$35.00 for the celebrant

The pastor shall have discretion concerning the remuneration for the organist and cantor depending on their experience, level of training and expertise. It is forbidden to seek a higher offering than \$300.00. Of course, the pastor could decide to accept a lower offering or no offering depending on the family's circumstances. In that case the parish is responsible to provide the allotted compensation to the musicians.

## **NEW OFFERING SCHEDULE FOR WEDDINGS**

The Presbyteral Council voted to recommend to Bishop McManus a change in the offering made on the occasion of the celebration of a wedding. Bishop McManus accepted this recommendation and will promulgate it effective, August 6, 2009.

### **Weddings: [Exclusive of music] Increase from \$175 to \$250 for parishioners:**

- \$125 Parish compensation (Increase from present \$50)
- \$50 Marriage preparation materials (Remains the same)
- \$75 Priest stipend (Remains the same)

### **Weddings: [Exclusive of music] Increase from \$250 to \$325 for non-parishioners**