

## **Decree of Promulgation**

## Concerning the Revision of the Priest Personnel Policy Manual

Priestly ministry is a great gift to the Church. In the words of the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council: "Through the ordination and mission which they receive from the bishops, priests are promoted to the service of Christ the Teacher, Priest and King. Priests are given a share in Christ's ministry, through which the Church here on earth is being ceaselessly built up into the People of God, Christ's Body and the temple of the Spirit." (*Presbyterorum Ordinis*, 1)

To serve well the people entrusted to our care, it is important as presbyters that we approach our ministry to them and with each other in a unified and purposeful manner. It is for that reason that I appointed a Committee to study and up-date our current *Priest Personnel Policy Manual*. Following a lengthy process involving many contributors and extensive consultation, the Committee has completed its work. On September 23, 2013, members of the Presbyteral Council of the Diocese voted unanimously to accept the *Manual* as revised.

Today, on the feast day of Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church and in accord with *Code of Canon Law (c.8, 2; 12, 3)*, I hereby promulgate as particular law for our Diocese the revised *Priest Personnel Policy Manual*. May our fidelity to these policies and procedures serve to deepen our communion in Christ and with the people of God we are privileged to serve.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Erie on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L.

Bishop of Erie

The Reverend Christopher J. Singer

Chancellor

