## **Parish Assessment Policy**

All parishes and missions of the Diocese of Camden are subject to an annual assessment that funds the administrative activities of the Diocese. There are numerous services provided by the administrative departments of the Diocese, most of which parishes would have to provide on their own. Centralizing these services creates economies of scale which result in lower costs for all entities. It also allows for subject matter experts to be hired, which would be difficult, if not impossible, for most parishes. Some of these services are:

- 1. Financial Services that provides assistance with budgeting, accounting and financial policies as well as financial reporting. Administers the Revolving Fund for parishes.
- 2. Human Resources that provides assistance with employee hiring, guidance in the form of personnel policies, compliance with labor laws, etc. Administers employee benefit programs, pension, disability and workers compensation.
- 3. Development assistance with stewardship efforts, capital campaigns and planned giving programs as well as processing stock gifts and other non-monetary gifts for parishes.
- 4. Buildings and Project Management that provides guidance, executing contracts, bid selection and support for construction and renovation projects.
- 5. Legal assistance with general legal matters, contract review, real estate transactions and dispute resolution.
- 6. IT Services that maintains and supports parish church management and accounting software.

The Assessment is based on Ordinary Income, including holiday collections for the previous fiscal year. The Assessment rate is a flat 10%.