

## Bereavement Leave Policy for Clergy

## **Purpose**

To support clergy in times of the death of an immediate family member, bereavement leave is provided.

Bereavement Leave grants leave of absence for clergy to be with their loved ones; to make arrangements for the funeral; to attend the funeral; and to grieve the loss of their family member.

## **Policy**

Two consecutive weeks including two Sundays are provided to all clergy upon the death of a member of their immediate family.

The immediate family is normally considered to be the cleric's spouse or one of the following relatives of the clergy or their spouse: child, stepchild, birth or adoptive parent, sibling or stepsibling, grandparent or step-grandparent.

For stipendiary clerics, Bereavement Leave is paid leave and does not use vacation or any allowed sick days.

Vacation may be taken immediately following a bereavement leave, in consultation with the wardens.

During a bereavement leave, the parish covers the cost of Sunday coverage and any other costs associated with pastoral coverage.

The bishop may grant additional compassionate leave, with or without pay.

This policy serves as a minimum requirement. Parishes are free to offer more than the requirements outlined in this policy.