

## Policy on Rectories

In establishing a standard for rectories, the Diocese of Niagara recognizes that some current rectories may not meet this new standard. These characteristics should be considered as the minimum standard when new rectories are purchased and current ones renovated.

- a) Clergy families shall be housed in a single-family dwelling with three bedrooms, livingroom, recreation room, kitchen and dining room. Consideration shall be given for energy-efficiency (windows, doors, insulation and heating). Central air-conditioning should be provided.
- b) Clergy living in rectories shall be provided with all utilities including basic telephone services, basic cable television service, and internet access.
- c) Rectories should be furnished with all appliances including range, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer and dryer.
- d) If an office is not provided on the church site, a suitable study/office space on the main floor of the rectory must be available (a separate outside entrance to this space is preferred).
- e) The Rector will share in the responsibilities for the up keep of the rectory property with the Wardens. The clergy shall ensure that any issues that pertain to the entire rectory property will be brought to the attention of the Church Wardens as soon as they arise.
- f) It is mandated that the Church Wardens, in consultation with the Rector, will ensure that an annual inspection of the Rectory, by knowledgeable people, be undertaken. Suitable notice shall be negotiated.  
The condition of the Rectory will then be reported at the annual Vestry meeting.
- g) Where a Rectory is leased to tenants, it is mandated that an annual inspection be undertaken by knowledgeable people and that such an inspection is to be clearly communicated, as well as stated in the lease agreement, for the protection of both parties.  
The condition of the Rectory will then be reported at the annual Vestry meeting.
- h) Whenever possible, consideration should be given to issues of accessibility.

October 3, 2006