# Retired Clergy

The Diocese of Christ our Hope (DCH) recognizes that, whether for reasons of age or health, clergy will eventually choose to retire. Retired status signifies that the clergy person is not engaging in any active ministry in a DCH mission or congregation, but their orders still remain in DCH.

Retired clergy are welcome and encouraged to participate in regular Parish Visits and diocesan events, but are not required to do so. Nevertheless, it is the desire of the Bishop to maintain regular contact with retired clergy under his care. This customary describes the expectations and protocols for retired clergy, in addition to the protocol for reinstatement to active status.

**Checklist for Retired Clergy**

*\*The below items should be completed by the end of January each calendar year.*

* Interview with Rector once a year (if attending a DCH mission or congregation)
* Receipt of Clergy Wellbeing Inventory (found on diocesan website) LINK
* Interview with the Bishop

**Checklist for Reinstatement to Active Status**

Forms and guides are available on our website at <https://www.adhope.org/credentialing-documents>

* At least 6 months attendance at a DCH Mission or Congregation
* Interview with Canon to the Ordinary
* Interview between Canon to the Ordinary and Rector
* Receipt of Reinstatement to Active Status Application (see attached form below)
* Receipt of written application of the rector of the mission or congregation in which you will be serving (see attached form below)
* Receipt of Ministry Application, Part I
* Receipt of Clergy Wellbeing Inventory
* Completion and receipt of DCH background check, or provision of evidence of the same completed within the past five years
* Completion and receipt of Ministry Safe and UCSE courses (online sexual abuse prevention tutorials), or provision of documentation showing completion of the same. Contact bbowman@adhope.org for Ministry Safe and UCSE login info.
* Completion of DCH Child Protection training.
* Interview with the DCH bishop
* Receipt of approval from the DCH bishop

**Reinstatement to Active Status Application**

DATE

FULL NAME

Please answer the following questions, limiting your application to no more than 2 pages.

* Please list the name of the church you currently attend, as well as the name and contact information for the Rector or Sr. Pastor.
* How would you describe your relationship to this church?
* How would you describe your relationship with the Rector/Sr. Pastor and his staff?
* Please describe the state of your spiritual and emotional health, including specific rhythms and practices you employ.
* As applicable, please describe the state of your spouse and children’s spiritual and emotional health.
* Are there any important updates to your sense of call to ordained ministry?
* Please describe the reasons for your desire to become reinstated to active status in a DCH mission or congregation?
* What specific prayer needs do you have?

Please send your application to Canon Ben Bowman (bbowman@adhope.org).

**Rector Application for Reinstatement of Retired Clergy**

DATE

I, RECTOR NAME, request that NAME OF RETIRED CLERGY be reinstated to active status to serve at CHURCH NAME.

Report

Please answer the following questions, limiting your report to no more than 2 pages.

* Please describe your rationale for this request.
* Do you believe this person is in a healthy place to re-engage as active clergy? Please address the strength and clarity of their sense of calling, spiritual and emotional wellbeing, and that of their marriage and children (as applicable).
* Please describe the ministry activities and responsibilities in which this person will be engaged.
* Does this person have a healthy relationship with you, the staff, vestry, and parish community?

Rector Signature

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Please send your application to Canon Ben Bowman (bbowman@adhope.org).