PREAMBLE

The Lord Jesus Christ has entrusted the pastoral care of the Christian Faithful of the Archdiocese of Denver to the Archbishop of Denver. Priests cooperate with the Archbishop in the pastoral care of the Archdiocese: “All priests, whether diocesan or religious, share and exercise with the bishop the one priesthood of Christ. They are thus constituted providential cooperators of this episcopal order” (Christus dominus, n. 28).

In order to effectively manage and coordinate this pastoral care, the Archbishop appoints certain priests to be pastors of individual parishes and appoints parochial vicars to assist the pastor in the discharge of his function. Only suitable priests are to be appointed as pastors and parochial vicars. Indeed, “In forming a judgment as to the suitability of a priest for governing a parish, the bishop should take into consideration not only his learning but also his piety, his zeal for the apostolate, and those other gifts and qualities which are necessary for the proper care of souls” (Christus dominus, n. 31).

It is necessary that the Archbishop inquire about the suitability of a priest before making an appointment to an ecclesiastical office requiring the care of souls. Therefore, “The Bishop must be especially diligent in his choice of pastors, considering the importance of the office of pastor for the care of souls. Through appropriate inquiries into the pastoral needs of the parish, conducted in consultation with the Vicar forane (Dean), the Bishop will be sure to find a suitable priest of sound doctrine and moral rectitude, who possesses apostolic zeal and the other virtues necessary for parish ministry, such as good communication skills and gifts of organization and leadership. The Bishop will weigh carefully and prudently the human conditions, the potential and the problems of the parish in question, in order to appoint a priest who is well matched to the particular parochial situation” (Apostolorum successores, n. 212).
ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this body, which functions under the presidency of the Archbishop of Denver or his delegate, is the “Deans’ Board of the Archdiocese of Denver.” In these statutes, it is hereafter referred to as the “Deans’ Board.”

ARTICLE II: NATURE AND PURPOSE

1: The Deans’ Board is a consultative, non-deliberative body, which advises the Archbishop about the regular appointments of pastors and parochial vicars to individual parishes and other non-parochial assignments.

2: The Deans’ Board may offer counsel to the Archbishop if there is need for the appointments of pastors and parochial vicars outside the normal time line due to death, illness or other unexpected circumstances.

3: The Deans’ Board assists the Archbishop in ascertaining appropriate and suitable assignments of priests based upon the needs of the Archdiocese of Denver and the capabilities of the individual priest.

4: The Deans’ Board provides a forum for discussion of pastoral concerns regarding the appointment of priests in the Archdiocese of Denver.

5: The purposes of the Deans’ Board are the following:

   5.1: To offer counsel to the Archbishop of Denver regarding the appointment of a priest to the office of pastor of an individual parish or quasi-parish within the Archdiocese of Denver.

   5.2: To offer counsel to the Archbishop of Denver regarding the appointment of a priest to the office of parochial vicar of an individual parish or quasi-parish within the Archdiocese of Denver.

   5.3: To offer counsel to the Archbishop of Denver regarding the appointment of a priest to the office of parochial administrator of an individual parish or quasi-parish with the Archdiocese of Denver.

   5.4: To offer counsel to the Archbishop of Denver regarding the appointment of a priest to any non-parochial ecclesiastical office requiring the care of souls, including as chaplain or rector of a church.

   5.5: To offer counsel to the Archbishop of Denver regarding the residence of priests who are not assigned to a parish.

   5.6: To offer counsel to an Archdiocesan Administrator or another who governs the
Exhibit XII

Archdiocese temporarily, *sede vacante*, regarding the appointment of a priest to the office of pastor of an individual parish or quasi-parish within the Archdiocese of Denver, only if the see has been vacant for a year or more.

5.7: To offer counsel to an Archdiocesan Administrator or another who governs the Archdiocese temporarily, *sede vacante*, regarding the appointment of a priest to the office of parochial vicar of an individual parish or quasi-parish within the Archdiocese of Denver.

6: Because the Deans closely share in the ministry of Archbishop, in addition to personnel consultation, he will seek the feedback and advice of the Deans about various issues and initiatives in the Archdiocese of Denver, at his discretion.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERS

1: The president of the Deans’ Board is the Archbishop of Denver or his delegate.

2: The *ex officio* members of the Deans’ Board are:

   2.1: Any coadjutor bishop of the Archdiocese of Denver.

   2.2: Any auxiliary bishops of the Archdiocese of Denver.

   2.3: The Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Denver.

   2.4: The Vicar for Clergy of the Archdiocese of Denver.

   2.5: The Dean of each deanery of the Archdiocese of Denver.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

1: The Deans’ Board meets regularly, as determined by the Archbishop, Vicar General or the Vicar for Clergy, who may convocate and preside over meetings.

2: The Deans’ Board assists the Archbishop according to the procedures and rules of order devised by him.

3: The agenda of the Deans’ Board is established by the Archbishop, Vicar General or Vicar for Clergy.

4: Each member of the Deans’ Board is required to bring forward the following at the meetings:

   4.1: Any appointment requests which have been made known to them by the priests of the Archdiocese, whether orally or in writing.
4.2: Any pertinent information about the suitability of a priest for a particular appointment, including his pastoral interests and aptitudes.

4.3: Any pertinent information which must be brought into consideration about the pastoral situation of a parish or quasi-parish of the Archdiocese, including, but not limited to, its size, location, financial situation and demographic composition.

4.4: Any sensitive pastoral circumstances which need to be considered by the Archbishop.

4.5: The honest and conscientious recommendation about a certain priest for a certain appointment, when solicited by the Archbishop or Vicar for Clergy.

5: Each member of the Deans’ Board is bound by strict confidentiality regarding the discussions which occur during the meetings.

ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS

1: The Archbishop of Denver alone may amend these statutes, following his own initiative or that of the Deans’ Board.

2: Any changes will take place immediately, unless otherwise stated. All members will receive timely notice of the amendment(s).

ARTICLE VI: APPROBATION

These statutes are hereby approved by the Archbishop of Denver and are to be interpreted in accord with the Code of Canon Law currently in force, the particular law of the Archdiocese of Denver, legitimate custom, and any other binding norms of the Latin-rite Catholic Church. These statutes may be formally interpreted and amended only by the Archbishop of Denver. Finally, these statutes will take effect immediately and will remain in force until revoked by the Archbishop of Denver, everything to the contrary notwithstanding.

On the 9th day of December 2016, the Memorial of St. Juan Diego.
Denver, Colorado

____________________________________
Most Reverend Samuel J. Aquila, S.T.L.
Archbishop of Denver

____________________________________
Mr. David N. Uebbing
Chancellor