

Calculation of Diocesan Levy

The largest single invoice that parishes will receive from the Diocese is for the Diocesan Levy. This levy provides funding for buildings, administration and programming and represents a major part of the total operating budget. The current levy (2026) is 15%, calculated on a rolling average of the last three years of revenue reported in the financial statements submitted to the Diocese from the parishes.

Included in total income reported are the following items:

1. Sunday Collections, envelopes and loose change;
2. Holy Day Collections, including Easter and Christmas;
3. Pastors Dues and automatic debits;
4. Net proceeds (revenue less expenditures) from fund raising activities (bingos, picnics, bazaars and similar entertainments and activities);
5. Donations and gifts made for ordinary parish operating expenses.
6. Transfers from other bank accounts to operating for operations use (Cemetery, Capital Fund, Hall account)

Excluded from total income reported are the following items:

1. Refunds of commodities taxes (HST Rebate), government grants, other rebates;
2. Special Collections (Share lent, Papal Charities, Needs of the Canadian Church, etc);
3. Large windfalls, such as bequests, although subsequent earnings thereon would be taxed;
4. Substantial donations earmarked for specific purposes such as Capital Improvements-major renovations, debt reduction or loan payments;
5. Cemetery Revenue
6. Hall Revenue
7. Income for shared expenses received from other parishes;
8. A standard deduction of \$5,000 per rectory is offered. It is a common practice that many parishes share the cost of a priest and the rectory costs. Beginning in 2016, the parishes that share a priest will receive a prorated deduction based on the formula of sharing the priest/rectory costs, e.g. if you pay 30% of priest salary and rectory costs your deduction would be 30% of \$5,000 or \$1,500.
9. Any debt repayment out of ordinary operating revenue will be deducted. If the debt repayment is taken from the building fund, it will not be deducted as any monies contributed to the building fund are deducted when they are donated (see #4 in exclusions).
10. Any expenses incurred for any fundraising activities to arrive at net proceeds (See # 4 in inclusions above)

The resultant figure is the “balance taxable” which is multiplied by the rate approved by the Diocesan Finance Council. The rate is struck annually by the Diocesan Finance Council at a percentage sufficient to meet approved Diocesan expenditures.