**Request for Financial Assistance from the Diocese of Maryland in 2021**

*The Financial Assistance Program is not a grant program. Funds allotted this program are provided by all congregations within the Diocese of Maryland so that we are able to do ministry throughout the Diocese of Maryland. The priority of this program is to assist congregations with vital and vibrant ministries weather a short period of financial constraint. This program is not designed for long term use and is not meant to be part of any congregation’s budget process. The deadline for filing this application is* ***January 30, 2021****. Applications received after this date* ***will not be considered****.*

*Please answer the following questions using as much space as you feel is necessary for your responses. Please direct any questions about this or the financial documents to Jason Kamrath at* *jkamrath@episcopalmaryland.org* *or 410 554-6385.* ***Please include copies of the financial statements from 2019 and 2020 along with the 2021 budget. Applications with missing information may be denied.***

Congregation’s Official Name and City:

Congregation’s phone number, email and mailing address:

Rector/Vicar/Priest-in-Charge: Phone: Email:

Contact Person and their Title/Role: Phone: Email:

Please list the names of all who participated in developing the following answers (vestry members, committee chairs, congregational forums, clergy, etc.).

1. What is the amount of financial assistance you are requesting for 2021?
2. What was the amount of diocesan financial assistance received over the last four years (2017 – 2020)?
3. How many times have you requested financial assistance?
4. What were the significant changes (positive or negative) at your congregation in 2020? Please be specific regarding how COVID 19 impacted your congregation.
5. Do you anticipate any significant changes (positive or negative) in 2021?
6. What was/is, were/are your:

Average Sunday worship attendance in 2019 and 2020?

Pledging Units in 2019 and 2020?

Pledging Units to date for 2021?

1. How will you use the financial assistance you are requesting?
2. Do you hope to be financially self-sustaining by the end of 2021?
	* 1. If yes, please explain your strategy.
		2. If no, when and how do you anticipate resolving your financial situation where you will no longer return to this committee?
3. Do you have an endowment? If so, how much? What are the restrictions on your endowment?
4. What diocesan and/or regional resources is your congregation using to enhance its ministry? (examples: Annual Stewardship Conference, Christian Education Conference, Consulting with Canon for Evangelism and Ministry Development, Diocesan grants, consultants or shared ministry ventures with near-by parishes.) Please elaborate on their usefulness and effectiveness.
5. Is your ministry known in your neighborhood? What would they say at the local supermarket or gas station?
6. If money were not an issue, what specific ministry ideas or plans excite your congregation; if money were no issue, what would your church be doing that it is not now doing?
7. Is there anything else you would like to communicate to the Financial Assistance for Congregations Committee at this time?