

§2000 THE PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

The following section explains the purpose, selection and responsibilities of the Parish Finance Committee.

In the administration of the temporalities of the parish, Canon 532 defines the role of the pastor as the juridic representative of the parish. Canon 537 introduces the element of a Parish Finance Committee as a mandated body having an advisory and consultative role on behalf of the pastor.

§2001 COMMITTEE REQUIREMENT

2001.1. Policy Every parish shall be required, both by adherence to the Code of Canon Law and Archdiocesan regulation, to have a Finance Committee¹. An existing structure within the parish may serve this role provided it is able to meet the requirements and execute the responsibilities noted below.

§2002 MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

§2002.1. Christian Faithful

2002.1. Policy Members shall be of the "Christian Faithful" in the language of the Code, which can be extended to include a member who is part of a mixed religion family and within the above definition by his or her participation and commitment within the parish community.

Procedure

The "Christian Faithful" are those who have been baptized in the Catholic Church (c. 204), and who remain in communion with the Catholic Church (c. 149) and are not barred by a legitimate sanction (c. 96).

§2002.2. Appointment by Pastor

2002.2. Policy Members shall be appointed by the pastor for fixed terms to be determined at the local level and may be re-appointed or terminated in this role by the pastor.

Procedures

Members of the Finance Committee should be chosen based on demonstrable skills or expertise in management and/or financial issues.

¹See Canon 537.

§2002.3. Drawn from the Community

2002.3. Policy Members shall be drawn from the parish community. This requirement may be waived in the event of special expertise if all other conditions of membership are met.

§2002.4. Number of Members

2002.4. Policy Membership shall consist of no less than three members.

§2002.5. Conflict of Interest

2002.5. Policy Members of the Finance Committee may serve in other volunteer service roles in the parish, provided such dual service will not create a conflict of interest. Members shall not be related to the pastor. The role of the Finance Committee should not be vitiated.

Procedure

No parish employee or member of the immediate family of a parish employee may serve on the Parish Finance Committee.

§2003 CONSULTATION BY PASTOR

2003.1. Policy The pastor shall consult with the Finance Committee on the following matters, although he remains the juridic authority for final decision;

- (1) Any commitment of parish resources in excess of \$10,000.00.
- (2) The management of funds which the parish is authorized to retain and manage,
- (3) At the minimum, review of the Annual Budget and Annual Parish Report before submission to the Pastoral Center. To the extent practical, he should be involved in the preparation of both reports, particularly the Budget report,
- (4) The Finance Committee should provide assistance and review in the formulation of the Parish Report to the parish community, as required by Canon 1287.