

Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council

Code of Canon Law

A) **Definition of a parish** (Canon 515):

“A parish is a definite community of the Christian faithful established on a stable basis within a particular church (diocese); the pastoral care of the parish is entrusted to a pastor as its own shepherd under the authority of the diocesan bishop.”

B) **Establishment of parish pastoral councils** (Canon 536):

“A pastoral council is to be established in each parish; the pastor presides over it, and through it the Christian faithful along with those who share in the pastoral care of the parish in virtue of their office give their help in fostering pastoral activity.”

C) **Finance Council** (Canon 537):

“Each parish is to have a finance council which is regulated by universal law as well as by norms issued by the diocesan bishop. In this council the Christian faithful, selected according to the same norms, aid the pastor in the administration of the parish good.”