

POLICY No. 27
PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS – OATH

1. Term definitions

Oath of office: the promise prescribed by canon law to be taken before assuming an ecclesiastical office.

Ecclesiastical office: a position or responsibility as defined in canon law.

2. Intent of the directive

To provide for good administration of temporal goods belonging to a parish.

3. Policy

a. As in Canon 1283 for those taking up an ecclesiastical office, before becoming part of the parish finance committee, each prospective member shall take an oath of confidentiality.

b. The oath shall be taken in the following or similar words:

"I, N.N., upon assuming membership in the Parish Finance Committee of N.N. Parish, do hereby swear and promise to perform conscientiously the duties assigned to this committee in its approved statutes and to observe the required secrecy relating to matters discussed in the Committee."

c. The oath shall be taken before the parish priest or his delegate. It need not be repeated when the member begins to serve a consecutive term on the committee. In the interest of transparency, this oath could be taken at a Sunday Mass. In this way, parishioners are kept informed.

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