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## PASTORAL STATUTE ON PARISH COMMITTEES FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

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- \* WHEREAS temporal goods and properties must be prudently and wisely administered; <sup>1</sup>
- \* WHEREAS the bishop must see to the formation of the faithful to a sense of participation and collaboration, even regarding the temporal goods required by the Church in order to carry out its mission; <sup>2</sup>
- \* WHEREAS the diocese is organised as an episcopal corporation whose only member is the Roman Catholic Bishop; <sup>3</sup>
- \* WHEREAS it is of prime importance to protect both the administrators of the Church's goods and properties and to safeguard these temporal goods;
- \* WHEREAS it is the prerogative of the Roman Catholic Bishop to set the necessary guidelines regarding the proper management of temporal affairs of all parishes;
- \* WHEREAS members of the Diocesan Council for Economic Affairs and of the Bishop's Council unanimously support the following decisions,

**I, François Thibodeau, Bishop of Edmundston, hereby publish the present Pastoral Statute, notwithstanding all other prior legislation:**

1. In the Diocese of Edmundston, the temporal goods of each parish shall be administered by a parish committee for economic affairs under the authority of the pastor or head of the parish and the parish pastoral council;
2. Each parish committee for economic affairs is to use the guidelines published by the Diocesan Council for Economic Affairs which describes the status, tasks, and mode of functioning;
3. Only those persons authorised by the bishop are to sign the parish's bank devices and negotiable instruments [cheques, notes, etc.];
4. Every bank device is to bear two signatures, that of the pastor or head of the parish, and that of the authorised person;
5. Each year, the parish committee for economic affairs shall give to the parish pastoral council a financial statement of the preceding year; once adopted by the parish annual meeting, this statement shall be sent to the bishop within the time frame determined;
6. Before the end of each year, the parish committee for economic affairs shall approve and send to the bishop, for information and authorization, a copy of the proposed budget for the coming year.

**THIS PRESENT STATUTE TAKES EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1996**

PREPARED AND PUBLISHED at Edmundston, N.B.  
November 10, 1995

*+ François Thibodeau*

+ François Thibodeau, C.J.M.  
Bishop of Edmundston

Ronilla Sirois, R.H.S.J.  
Chancellor

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- <sup>1</sup> Genesis 1; Matthew 24:45
  - <sup>2</sup> Directory of Bishops in Their Pastoral Charge
  - <sup>3</sup> Civil incorporation of the Diocese, April 7, 1946
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