

## **Abstract**

A superior in the Catholic Church at times needs the consent or counsel of certain consultative body in order to place a juridic act validly. Legal status of such colleges or groups of persons is regulated by the Code of Canon Law (CIC/1983) and by the statutes approved by the diocesan bishops. This thesis inquires into legal status of the consultative bodies in Roman Catholic diocesis, vicariates and parishes in Czech Lands.

Within the diocese the presbyteral council, the college of consultors and the diocesan finance council are required, establishment of the diocesan pastoral council is optional.

Mission of the presbyteral council is to assist the diocesan bishop in the governance of the diocese to promote as much as possible the pastoral good of the portion of the people of God entrusted to him. The diocesan bishop is to hear it in affairs of greater importance. Consultation of the presbyteral council is compulsory for example in case of establishment, or suppression of parishes, decision to build new church or relegation of a church to profane use.

The diocesan bishop needs the consent of the college of consultors especially to place acts of extraordinary administration or to alienate some goods. If the see is impeded, the college is to elect a diocesan administrator.

The diocesan finance council has the right, apart from the powers in the area of administration of property, to prepare each year, according to the directions of the diocesan bishop, a budget of the diocese and at the end of the year to examine an account of the revenues and expenses.

Diocesan pastoral council investigates, considers, and proposes practical conclusions about those things which pertain to pastoral works in the diocese under the authority of the diocesan bishop.

In vicariates in some dioceses vicariate councils has been established. They possess a consultative vote to the vicar forane.

In each parish is to be a finance council which assists the pastor in the administration of the goods of the parish. Optional parish pastoral council assists in fostering pastoral activity.