

ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS  
PARISH INTERNAL CONTROL QUESTIONNAIRE

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor/Administrator/PLC: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) who maintain accounting records: \_\_\_\_\_

On-site visit date: \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose:

The purpose of this questionnaire is to provide a basis for the consultant to gain an understanding of the control environment in the parish. The parish control environment is defined, in part, by the established policies and procedures relating to the parish's financial activities. Policies and procedures will vary by parish because of differences in staffing, demographics, program activities and volunteer lay resources.

This questionnaire is designed to give the consultant a high level understanding of the parish control environment. The questionnaire is to be completed in advance of the consultant's arrival at the parish. Once the consultant has reviewed the completed questionnaire, follow-up questions may be developed which will require further discussion on the first day of fieldwork.

Instructions:

Please answer each of the questions, identify the persons completing the questionnaire, and submit the completed questionnaire, signed by the pastor, to:

CPA Firm  
Parish Internal Control Assessment  
Address  
City, State Zip Code

These materials should be mailed to arrive no later than \_\_\_\_\_ (two weeks prior to the scheduled on-site visit). Please retain one copy of the completed questionnaire for parish records.

Please also scan or fax a copy to the Archdiocese Office of Accounting Services at: [accountingservices@archindy.org](mailto:accountingservices@archindy.org) or 317-236-7327.

Suggestions

If you have any questions, problems, or suggestions relating to the Archdiocesan accounting procedures or controls that you would like to see addressed, please include these with your completed questionnaire.

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**1. General**

		Yes	No
1.1	Does the parish have an active Parish Council (i.e., which meets at least quarterly)?	_____	_____
1.2	Does the parish have an active Finance Council (independent of the Parish Council)?	_____	_____
1.3	Was an annual meeting held by the parish council? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was the meeting held between July 1 and September 15?</li> <li>• Was the annual meeting minutes form completed?</li> </ul>	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
1.4	Does the parish have on record a copy of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Executed Administrative Services Agreement between the Archdiocese and the parish?</li> <li>- Conflict of interest form signed by each officer and director of the parish corporation?</li> <li>- Most recent NP-20 filed with the state?</li> <li>- Articles of incorporation?</li> <li>- Executed bylaws?</li> </ul>	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____

**2. Accounting System**

2.1 List all persons, both employees and volunteers, who access accounting records:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2.2 Does the parish use a computer or a manual bookkeeping system?

\_\_\_\_\_

2.3 If computerized, list all of the software programs the parish is using: (example: PDS Ledgers/Payables, PDS Payroll, PDS Census, Excel, Quickbooks, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

		Yes	No
2.4	If computerized, is the computer used for:		
	- Printing checks	_____	_____
	- General Ledger	_____	_____
	- Parish Financial Reports	_____	_____
	- Parishioner Contribution records	_____	_____
	- Parishioner Contribution reports	_____	_____

2.5 Who maintains the accounting records? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Cash Receipts – General (CR-G)**

Checking/Savings Accounts and Investments

3.1 This page is regarding Parish/Agency bank accounts and investments. Please complete the following information for all accounts, including clubs, organizations, bingo, festival, fund raising, mass stipend, etc. List authorized signatures on the checking accounts (including accounts of affiliated organizations). List all investments, including investments of affiliated organizations.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Bank</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Signatures</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

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3.2	<u>Investment</u>	<u>No. of shares or Face Value</u>	<u>Cost Basis</u>	<u>Current Market Value</u>

		Yes	No
3.3	Are all accounts and investments listed above included on the Parish Annual Financial Report?	_____	_____
3.4	Are prenumbered receipts issued for funds received other than collections?	_____	_____
3.5	Are deposits made daily? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If no, how often _____</li> <li>• If deposits are not made daily, are deposits stored in a locked safe until deposit is made?</li> </ul>	_____	_____
3.6	Are all cash receipts deposited?	_____	_____
3.7	Are cash receipts ever used to pay expenses without being deposited?	_____	_____

3.8 Who compares the deposit summary form to the validated deposit slip?

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3.9 If a difference exists between the deposit summary form and the validated deposit slip, how is this difference resolved?

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3.10 Who receives funds in the parish office?

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**4. Cash Receipts – Collections and Other (CR-C)**

4.1 Describe procedures used for counting Sunday collections (for all weekend masses):

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4.2 When and where are collections counted?

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4.3 How many counters are used? \_\_\_\_\_

		Yes	No
4.4	Are all count teams composed of at least two non-related individuals?	_____	_____
4.5	Are counters rotated?	_____	_____
4.6	Is a deposit summary form (count sheet) used? If yes, please enclose a copy with this questionnaire when completed.	_____	_____
4.7	Are tamper proof money bags used to secure collections?	_____	_____
4.8	Is the deposit summary form signed by counters?	_____	_____
4.9	Are checks restrictively endorsed (“for deposit only”) by the counters?	_____	_____
4.10	Regarding weekly collections: Are collections maintained in a secure location area? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location during Mass _____</li> <li>• Location after Mass _____</li> </ul>	_____	_____

4.11 Who prepares the deposit slip?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4.12 Who makes the bank deposit?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4.13 Where are funds kept until they are deposited?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4.14 When is the deposit made for Saturday/Sunday collections?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4.15 Who records deposits and posts to the general ledger?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4.16 Who posts collections to individual parishioners' contribution records?

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		Yes	No
4.17	Is a reconciliation prepared between the amounts posted to individual parishioners' contribution records and the envelope amount plus loose collections indicated on the deposit slip or count sheet? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If yes, who performs this reconciliation?</li></ul>	_____	_____

4.18 When are collections posted to individual parishioners' contribution records?

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4.19 How are chancery collections documented and monitored?

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		Yes	No
4.20	Are chancery collections remitted by the specific due dates?		

4.21 How often are contribution statements sent to parishioners?

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4.22 Are contribution statements sent to all parishioners or only to ones that have contributed?

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**5. Mass Stipends**

		Yes	No
5.1	Are Mass offerings (stipends) kept in a separate checking account?		
5.2	Are Mass offerings recorded in a Mass stipend journal?		
5.3	Does the journal record items such as: date intention received, name to be remembered, stipend amount, date the Mass was offered, and priest offering the Mass?		
5.4	Is the number of unsaid Masses per the journal reconciled at least annually with the stipend checking account?		
5.5	Are all stipends paid to priest via Central Payroll?		
5.6	Are priests only paid for one intention said per day with the exception on Christmas, when priests may trinate?		
5.7	Are bination stipends paid directly out of the stipend checking account to the designated charity?		
5.8	Are large offerings applied to masses in \$10 increments (unless the offeror specifically requests the number of masses to be applied)?		
5.9	Are any mass intentions that have not been said within one year of its offering forwarded to the Propagation of the Faith unless the offeror specifically requested that the intention be said by the priest?		

5.10 How are under-fundings or over-fundings of the Mass stipend account handled?

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5.12 How much are priests paid for the Masses said pro populo? Is this reported every month through central payroll?

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**6. Fundraisers**

6.1 List fundraising events conducted by the parish and related organizations. Include the person in charge of the fundraising events.

<u>Fundraiser</u>	<u>Individual in Charge</u>

6.2 If the parish conducts charity gaming events:

- How often?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Who submits reports to the Indiana Gaming Commission?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How are receipts and disbursements monitored and documented?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

		Yes	No
6.3	Has a copy of all laws and regulations been made available to all members of the parish council and bingo/gaming committee or volunteers?	_____	_____
6.4	Is bingo being held “on-site”?	_____	_____
6.5	Is training provided to all bingo/gaming workers?	_____	_____
6.6	Are quarterly reports submitted to the Indiana Gaming Commission?	_____	_____
6.7	Is a separate bank account maintained for charity gaming?	_____	_____
6.8	Is the gaming bank account included on the parish balance sheet?	_____	_____

6.9	Is bingo/gaming administered, conducted and promoted by volunteer personnel who receive <b>no remuneration</b> of any kind (even tuition)?	_____	_____
6.10	Has the parish received any fines or violation reports from the Indiana Gaming Commission?	_____	_____
6.11	If fines or violations have occurred, have steps been taken to ensure that such violations do not reoccur?	_____	_____
6.12	Are only allowable expenses disbursed from the charity gaming bank account? (See <a href="http://www.in.gov/igc/files/Allowable_Expenses.pdf">http://www.in.gov/igc/files/Allowable_Expenses.pdf</a> for a list of allowable expenses.)	_____	_____
6.13	Are any payments for salaries, stipends, taxes, or alcoholic beverages made from the charity gaming bank account?	_____	_____
6.14	Is a detailed summary of receipts and disbursements created for each event?  - If so, is the summary reviewed by the parish finance committee?	_____	_____
6.15	Do you receive income for any of these sources?  - Rental of parish hall  - Rental of multi-purpose room  - Rental of other parish-school/facilities  - Use of parking lot on weekends or nights  - Advertising in the parish bulletin  - Pre-school, Day Care, or After-School Care	_____	_____

**7. Related Organizations**

7.1 Please describe the budgeting process for all related organizations.

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		Yes	No
7.2	Are these budgets reflected in the parish operating budget?	_____	_____
7.3	Are all accounts listed on general ledger and in the annual financial report?	_____	_____
7.4	Are net income and losses reflected for the year in the ledger and annual report?	_____	_____
7.5	Are monthly statements and reconciliations prepared for each account listed? (Please note: annual income and expense reports for all related organizations are required by Canon Law to be submitted to the parish.)	_____	_____
7.6	Are any parish, rectory, convent, or religious education center expenditures paid by an affiliated organization directly? If so, please explain below.	_____	_____

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7.7 Describe when and how often related organizations sell goods, food, or drink. (See Page 8, Fundraisers).

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**8. Cash Disbursements**

8.1 Who initially receives and opens the mail?

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8.2 Where are checks maintained when not in use?

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8.3 Who has the authority to purchase and place orders?

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8.4 How are invoices reviewed and approved for confirmation that the expense was budgeted? Include how the approval is documented (i.e. invoice initialed and dated) and by whom.

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8.5 How are invoices reviewed and approved for account distribution? Include how the approval is documented and by whom.

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8.6 How are invoices reviewed and approved for receipt of goods and services? Include how the approval is documented and by whom.

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8.7 Describe the process for reimbursing mileage or other expenses.

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		Yes	No
8.8	Are invoices reviewed and approved for mathematical accuracy? If yes, by whom?		
8.9	Is a signature stamp utilized for signing checks?		
8.10	Is electronic banking utilized? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If so, does the pastor review all electronic transaction?</li> <li>- Is the bank reconciliation performed by someone other than the person responsible for reviewing the electronic payments?</li> </ul>		
8.11	Are Form 1099 issued at calendar year end for all non-employees who receive more than \$600?		

8.12 How are invoices and bills distributed for approval and authorized for payment?

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8.13 Who prepares checks?

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8.14 How is supporting documentation reviewed prior to check signing?

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8.15 What documentation/approval is required and maintained for reimbursements to individuals or for expenditures not accompanied by an invoice or bill (what supports check requests)?

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8.16 Who is authorized to signs checks?

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8.17 Who actually signs the majority of the checks?

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8.18 Are all disbursements from all parish bank accounts made by pre-numbered checks?

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8.19 What provision is made for the issuance of checks when the pastor/administrator/PLC or bookkeeper is away?

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8.20 Where are disbursements recorded (checkbook, journal, ledger)?

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8.21 Who mails checks?

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**9. Petty Cash**

9.1 Please list petty cash funds maintained (include all cash on hand):

<u>Purpose of Fund</u>	<u>Amount of Fund</u>	<u>Cashier</u>

9.2 How is the fund replenished? Review the entire process including, but not limited to, how petty cash payments are documented, reviewed, and posted to expenses. If a check is written to replenish the fund, specify who it is made payable to, or if the fund is replenished in some other manner (i.e. out of cash receipts), specify how it is done.

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9.3 Who has access to the fund?

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9.4 How often is the fund replenished?

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9.5 Is the petty cash fund subject to “surprise counts” to ensure that cash on hand plus documented expenses is always equal to the fund total?

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**10. Credit Cards**

10.1 Are debit and or credit cards used? If so, for what purpose?

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10.2 Explain the approval and reconciliation processes for using debit/credit cards.

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**11. Reconciliations**

11.1 Who opens bank statements?

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11.3 Who performs the parish bank reconciliation?

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11.4 How often are bank statements reconciled?

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11.5 Who reviews the bank reconciliation once complete?

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**12. Budgets and Financial Reporting**

12.1 How many members are currently on your finance committee?

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12.2 How is your finance committee appointed?

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12.3 How long is a member's term?

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		Yes	No
12.4	If your parish has a school, does the finance committee have at least one member who is also a member of the Board of Education?		
12.5	Does the finance committee chairperson also serve on the Parish Council?		
12.6	Does the finance committee approve the annual budget?		
12.7	Does the finance committee review monthly financial statements? - If not monthly, how often do they review the financial statements? _____		
12.8	Does the finance committee review and approve non-budgeted expenses and/or programs?		
12.9	Does the finance committee provide parishioners		

	with periodic reports on the financial condition of the parish? - If yes, how often? _____		
12.10	Are minutes of meetings for the Finance Committee and Parish Council recorded and maintained?		
12.11	Are current financial statements compared to annual budgets?		

12.12 How long after the end of the month are the following activities completed?

- Reconciliation of bank statements: \_\_\_\_\_
- General Ledger closed: \_\_\_\_\_
- Monthly reports generated: \_\_\_\_\_

### **13. Payroll**

		Yes	No
13.1	Are written human resource policies distributed to all employees?		
13.2	Are all employees paid through payroll?		
13.3	Are any individuals being paid as contractors? If yes, who _____		
13.4	Are there ever any payroll advances?		
13.5	Is overtime paid at 1.5 times the regular rate for hours over 40 hours per week to non-exempt employees?		
13.6	Are all positions paid minimum wage or more?		
13.7	Are salary levels documented and approved by the Finance Committee?		
13.8	Are volunteers compensated for their services?		
13.9	Are medical benefits offered to all employees working 30 hours or more per week year-round, 36 hours per week on a ten month schedule, or 39 hours per week on a nine month schedule?		

13.10 Are the following items posted? (Check if yes)

- Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA)\_\_\_\_\_
- Worker’s Compensation Notice\_\_\_\_\_
- Employee Polygraph Protection Act\_\_\_\_\_
- Federal Minimum Wage Law\_\_\_\_\_
- Indiana Minimum Wage Law\_\_\_\_\_
- Equal Employment Opportunity\_\_\_\_\_
- Family and Medical Leave Act\_\_\_\_\_
- Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)\_\_\_\_\_
- Employee Assistance Program\_\_\_\_\_

13.11 Are the following items maintained in employee personnel/payroll files? (Check if yes)

- W-4\_\_\_\_\_ WH-4\_\_\_\_\_ Resumes\_\_\_\_\_
- I9 Employment Verification\_\_\_\_\_ Criminal History Check\_\_\_\_\_
- Archdiocesan application forms\_\_\_\_\_ Employment Contracts\_\_\_\_\_
- Records of time off\_\_\_\_\_ Notes regarding disciplinary actions\_\_\_\_\_
- Payroll authorization forms\_\_\_\_\_ Acknowledged human resources policy\_\_\_\_\_
- Acknowledged child abuse policy\_\_\_\_\_ Performance appraisal records\_\_\_\_\_
- Continuing education records\_\_\_\_\_ Up-to-date position descriptions\_\_\_\_\_
- Emergency notification forms\_\_\_\_\_ AUL Life Insurance Enrollment Form\_\_\_\_\_
- Retirement beneficiary form\_\_\_\_\_ Records of reference checks\_\_\_\_\_
- Medical Records (leave requests)\_\_\_\_\_ Safe & Sacred training records\_\_\_\_\_

13.12 Describe the payroll procedures.

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13.13 How are payroll hours monitored and verified (time cards)?

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13.14 How are bonuses approved? Do they go through regular payroll procedures?

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13.15 How are salary levels approved by the Parish Council or Finance Committee and how is this approval documented? Are current salaries within suggested Archdiocesan guidelines?

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13.16 Is there an approval process in place for payroll; does someone other than the payroll processor approve the payroll before it is submitted?

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13.7 Please include a list of all individuals receiving compensation which does not go through Central Payroll:

<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Pay Frequency</u>	<u>Salary/Earnings</u>
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**14. Information Systems**

14.1 Is there a back-up procedure for data files and applications used? If so, please describe back-up procedures.

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14.2 Are password required on all at the network, PC, and application levels? If not, please specify which do not require passwords.

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**15. Controls for the Resource-Constrained Parish**

15.1 Please describe any resource constraints your parish has faced.

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**16. Parishes with Cemeteries**

		Yes	No
16.1	State Law: Are cemetery records (perpetual care, lots, etc.) maintained in the rectory? - At the cemetery office?		
16.2	State Law: Do all purchase contracts state that the purchase is for burial rights and that the parish retains the first right of refusal to repurchase burial rights?		
16.3	Is a description and location of all burial spaces recorded in writing and in map form?		
16.4	General Practices: Are there any duplicate records stored at another location? - If yes, where? _____		
16.5	General Practices: Are cemetery records maintained in a safe or locked fireproof cabinet?		
16.6	General Practices: Are hours of operation (open/close) posted at all access points to the cemetery property?		

**17. Parishes with Trust Funds**

17.1 Does the parish have copies of wills or bequests to identify amounts reported as endowment (principal) funds and amounts available to be used for the intent of the gift?

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**18. Property / Loans**

		Yes	No
18.1	Does the parish have a listing on a separate sheet or ledger of all parish property?	_____	_____
18.2	Is there a copy of all real estate transactions, lease agreements and easement grants on file in the parish office?  - Have the originals of any of these documents been sent to the Archdiocesan finance office?	_____ _____	_____ _____
18.3	Does the Parish Council or Finance Council review the insurance coverage annually to guarantee all properties including vehicles are properly covered?	_____	_____
18.4	Does the parish have a loan through the Archdiocesan Deposit and Loan fund?	_____	_____
18.5	Does the parish have a loan through any other financial institution? If so, which institution _____	_____	_____
18.6	Are all loans recorded on the parish balance sheet?	_____	_____

**19. Other Revenue**

19.1 Does the parish receive revenue from other sources? If so, list sources and how, when, and by whom the revenue is collected and accounted for, and the person depositing the funds.

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Signatures

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor/Administrator/PLC

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bookkeeper/Accountant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Individual preparing questionnaire if not  
Pastor/Administrator/PLC or Bookkeeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_