

such sums as may be necessary to pay the principal of said bonds when they severally fall due.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 8, 1883.

[No. 13 S.]

[Published March 9, 1883.]

### CHAPTER 37.

AN ACT supplementary and amendatory of chapter 91 of the revised statutes, entitled "of religious societies."

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. The provisions of chapter 91 of the revised statutes, entitled "of religious societies," shall not apply to or in any manner affect the Roman Catholic church or denomination, or any society or religious corporation now existing or which may be hereafter organized in connection with that church or denomination. The bishop of each diocese being the only trustee of each Roman Catholic church in his diocese, may cause any or all congregations therein to be incorporated by adding four more members as trustees, as hereinafter provided.

Does not affect Roman Catholic church.

SECTION 2. The bishop and vicar-general of each diocese, the pastor of the congregation to be incorporated, together with two laymen of such congregation (the latter to be chosen from and by the congregation), shall be the trustees of the same.

Trustees of same.

SECTION 3. Such corporation shall assume an appropriate name in its articles of incorporation, and shall have power to purchase, accept and own and hold property, real and personal, and to sell, convey and dispose of the same; and to contract debts, all of which shall be done subject to the by-laws and restrictions hereinafter provided for. Such corporation shall have power to sue and be sued, and to have a common seal, which may be changed at pleasure and to do all things necessary for the proper transaction of the business and duties of said corporation; to do and perform all things needful in the management of the temporal affairs of the Roman Catholic church of such congregation, and for the benefit thereof and of such members as may become attached and belong to said church, in conformity with such

Shall assume appropriate name.

rules and regulations as may be established by its by-laws; and also to purchase, own, hold, regulate, control, manage or dispose of any eleemosynary, educational, cemetery, religious or other property which it may acquire in connection with said church, and the congregation thereof, or assigned to it by the bishop or other person or persons.

Members of  
such corpora-  
tion.

SECTION 4. The said bishop and vicar-general shall be and remain members of such corporation, as long as they shall be and remain respectively bishop and vicar-general of said diocese; and said pastor shall be and remain a member thereof so long as he shall be and remain pastor of said congregation; and whenever either or all of them shall cease to be bishop, vicar-general or pastor as aforesaid, by reason of death, resignation, removal or otherwise, then, and in that case, their respective successors as such bishop, vicar-general or pastor, shall be and become their respective successors as members of such corporation, and in like manner they shall have perpetual succession.

Laymen shall  
be members.

SECTION 5. The said two laymen shall be and remain members of such corporation for the term of two years, and until their successors (who in all cases shall be laymen) are chosen or selected as provided by the by-laws. In case of a vacancy in the office of bishop of said diocese, the administrator thereof, or such other person as may be appointed according to the rules of the Roman Catholic church, to preside over and administer the spiritual and temporal affairs of said diocese, shall be, while he is such administrator or appointee, a member of such corporation in the place and stead of the bishop of said diocese, and have the same power and authority in such corporation as said bishop would have.

Officers of  
corporation.

SECTION 6. The officers of such corporation shall be a president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary, and the said bishop, his successor or administrator thereof, or such other person as may be appointed according to the rules of the Roman Catholic church, or administrator for the time being, shall be president, and the said pastor shall be vice-president ex officio, and the treasurer and secretary shall be selected or chosen from among the laymen who are members of such corporation, as provided by the by-laws. In all cases the treasurer shall be required to give bonds to such

corporation, conditioned that he will faithfully account for, and pay over all moneys that may come into his hands as such treasurer, and otherwise faithfully discharge the duties of his office, which bond shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, be approved by the president, vice-president and secretary, by endorsement to that effect made thereon.

SECTION 7. The said bishop or administrator, and said vicar general, pastor, and the said treasurer and secretary, shall be Ex-officio directors. ex-officio directors of such corporation. Said directors may, by a majority vote, contract debts not exceeding in amount the sum of three hundred dollars; but debts in excess of that sum may be contracted for by the consent and vote of all the directors. The real estate of the corporation shall not be sold, mortgaged, encumbered or disposed of in any manner without the vote and consent of all the directors.

SECTION 8. The said directors, by a unanimous Adopt by-laws. vote, may adopt such by-laws not contrary to the constitution and laws of this state, the statutes of the diocese, and the discipline of the Roman Catholic church as may be deemed necessary for the proper government of such corporation and the management and business thereof, or the temporal affairs of such congregation which may become connected therewith or attached thereto. Said by-laws may be altered or amended in the same manner as by-laws are herein required to be adopted, and not otherwise; and whenever so adopted or amended they shall, before taking effect, be recorded by the secretary in a book to be provided and kept for that purpose, and subscribed to by each of said directors.

SECTION 9. Whenever any of said congregations Acknowledgements. has complied with the foregoing provisions of incorporation, the articles thereof shall be made out accordingly, and signed by the president and secretary in the presence of two witnesses, who shall sign their names thereto, and acknowledged before some notary public or other person authorized by law thereto, and filed in the office of the secretary of state and in the office of the register of deeds in the county or counties where such corporation may own real estate.

SECTION 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.  
Approved March 8, 1883.