

Parish Pastoral Council

In a continuing effort to make the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) more representative of all the parish and to encourage more parishioners to serve on the PPC, a proposed revision of the PPC Bylaws is printed below for your consideration. Please feel free to leave your written comments at the Parish Office. Your thoughts on this matter are very important. The main points of the revisions are as follows:

- Reduce the time-of-service on the PPC to three (3) years from six.
- Eliminate the “Alternate” year of service.
- Elect 1/3 of the entire PPC each year.

Have our Parishioners elect the PPC members through a Discernment Process. (In short, Discernment is a prayerful process that calls on God to show us the way to the best decision).

To implement this new process, all current members of the PPC who desire to continue in service on the PPC will re-submit their names for consideration in the Discernment Process.

Proposed Article III - Membership / Selection

Section I

The Parish Pastoral Council shall consist of 15 lay members of the parish. These members shall be generally representative of the parish community at large (e.g., age/culture etc.). The pastor, associate pastor (s), and permanent deacon (s) shall be ex-officio members. Parish staff, as designated by the pastor, shall also be ex-officio.

Section II

All members are expected to be actively involved in the parish community, both prior to and while serving on the Parish Pastoral Council.

Section III

Each year, in January, a task force shall be appointed by the chairperson to coordinate and implement a procedure for the selection of New Members to the PPC.

- In this procedure, New Members of the PPC shall be selected by parishioners of St. Patrick's Parish.
- Parishioners participating in the selection of PPC New Members will be encouraged to use discernment in their selection process.
- Each year, 1/3 of the current PPC members having served the longest in their current term, will end their terms.
- New members shall replace current members who will be “termining off” in July of that year.
- New members shall also replace any additional positions that had been vacated during the current year.

Section IV

The term of membership on the PPC is for 3 years effective July 1 of each year.

- Members may seek a second term of consecutive membership.
- Members seeking a second term of consecutive membership must go through the same discernment process as any other parishioner seeking membership to the PPC.
- Members may not seek a third consecutive term of membership.
- After one year of non PPC membership, a past member of the PPC may seek membership again. That person must go through the same discernment process as any other parishioner seeking membership to the PPC. If selected, that member would be considered to be in his first year of membership and subject to the above items discussed in this section.

Section V

The chairperson of the PPC in consultation with the pastor and council may appoint additional members to the PPC as necessary (to reflect the diversity of the parish, to add parishioners with needed skills or expertise . . .) for a one-year term.

- If this member later seeks membership through the discernment process described in Article 3 Section IV above, the one-year term described in this section shall not be considered with respect to term limitations.

Section VI

Voluntary resignations shall be submitted in writing to the PPC chairperson at least 60 days in advance or with as much advance notice as possible. Two absences, in one fiscal year, shall be considered a *de facto* resignation.

Section VII

Mid term vacancies on the PPC may be filled in accordance with Article 3 Section V above. However, it is not a requirement that vacancies are to be filled prior to the next discernment process.