

# The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) 2022

***By reason of the knowledge, competence or predominance which they have, the laity are empowered- indeed sometimes obliged- to manifest their opinion on those things which pertain to the good of the Church.”***  
*Doqmatic Constitution of the Church*

This concept comes from the Vatican II Council’s insistence on the need for active participation by the laity in the life and mission of the Church. It is intended to enable pastors and parishioners to form an effective and cohesive PPC in all parishes.

The Parish Pastoral Council serves in an advisory capacity to the pastor. PPC members bring their knowledge of the parish and their diverse talents and perspectives to the parish’s responsibility to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ. The PPC is charged to assist in development of a mission that is focused on the life of the parish rather than on programmatic or finance-driven activities.

As St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish takes steps to building the new reality needed to energize this mission, it relies on the talents, voices, vision and faith of the entire parish, which the PPC represents.

Critical and interrelated elements that form the essence of parish life today are:

- Evangelization
- Worship and Word
- Community
- Service and Stewardship
- Leadership

The purpose of the PPC is to assist the pastor in planning, organizing, initiating, promoting, coordinating and reviewing the evangelization, worship, faith formation- both youth and adults, and service activities within the parish.

As it focuses on these important areas of parish life, the PPC must strive to build new generations of lay leaders to carry forth the mission of the Church. The PPC’s work must model the values of our faith:

- Mission-focused
- Nurturing of others
- Prayer and discernment
- Collaboration rather than conflict
- Consensus rather than majority rule

The PPC’s work includes:

- Assessing the needs of the entire parish and its members to develop and implement a pastoral plan that promotes the common good of the parish
- Fostering unity and a sense of community by coordinating all parish activities in a manner that serves the best interest of the entire parish

- Promoting programs and activities designed to solidify the parish's foundation even when immediate results are not seen

#### Parish Council Membership:

- The Pastor determines ex officio members, such as the associate pastor, ministry leaders, etc.
- Other members should be called forth from the parish community by a selection or discernment process and appointed by the pastor
- Each PPC member should be:
  - Baptized, practicing Catholic
  - Registered member of the parish
  - Participant in the ongoing life of the parish, especially Sunday Eucharist
  - At least 18 years of age
- Additionally PPC members should:
  - Desire spiritual growth for themselves and the parish
  - Inspire and empower others
  - Be enthusiastic about the present and future directions of the parish
  - Be eager to participate in parish decisions about its direction
  - Be willing to listen, speak honestly and work toward consensus
  - Show marked integrity in articulating what one has heard and believes
  - Be cooperative, flexible and open with people and ideas
- Term of Office:
  - Three years with the possibility of reappointment. Serve only two consecutive terms
  - Only one-third of positions on the PPC are to be open for appointment at one time
  - In a newly formed PPC one-third of the members serve three-years, one-third serve two years, and one-third serve one year. Those serving a one-year term may serve two additional consecutive terms

This document is an adapted summary of:

Revisioning the Parish Pastoral Council

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