

Parish Pastoral Council

Sample charter

Insert parish name

Who we are:

‘Go Make Disciples’ – three simple words that guide us in everything we do, acting as a template for all parish activity

We are a welcoming and inclusive community of faith, blessed with a wonderful heritage, striving to honour it by all that we do

We invite everyone to join in and contribute to sustaining and building our parish family. We are all enriched by sharing our faith, energy and talents with and for one another.

1. Role

The Parish Pastoral Council is a representative group of parishioners who advise and assist the Parish Priest with the development of the parish pastoral vision.

The Parish Pastoral Council will:

- search out and respond to the hopes, ideas, needs and concerns of parishioners grow in knowledge and awareness of what is already happening in the parish
- encourage and support the good work of existing groups within the parish
- evaluate carefully information gathered in order to contribute towards the making of decisions that reflect the values of the gospel and the teachings of the Church
- set long-term and short-term pastoral goals for the parish
- provide opportunities for parishioners to grow in their relationship with God and with each other
- develop, implement & improve parish initiatives to assist parishioners’ continuing efforts to live as effective Christians in society.

2. Composition

The Parish Pastoral Council is comprised of ten members with two Ex-Officio members, the Parish Priest and the Principal.

3. Requirements of members

- Members are active participants in the life of the parish and prepared to demonstrate leadership in all aspects of parish life
- Members of the Parish Pastoral Council will undertake a Working with Children Check in accordance with Archdiocesan policy.
- The minimum of a monthly meeting commitment is required
- Membership is for an initial period of three years and will be eligible to stand for a further term of three years

- (Terms will be staggered, by concession of office, so that no more than approximately one-third of the membership will leave office in any given year
- Terms begin with the first council meeting of the year and end with the final meeting of the year.

4. Characteristics of Members

- Open, sincere, faithful, committed, cooperative
- People of integrity and confidentiality

5. General Operating Procedures

- The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on a monthly basis from February to November
- Each meeting will commence with prayer
- The Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council will be determined by (?) and will normally hold the position of Chair for a period of 12 months/2 years
- the Secretary of the Parish Pastoral Council will be determined by:(?) and will normally hold the position for a period of 12 months/2 years
- the Agenda will be set by the Chair, the Secretary and the Parish Priest
- Meetings will commence at 7pm and conclude by ...

As at (insert date)