

# **The Constitution of the Pastoral Council of the Church of Saint Patrick Yorktown Heights, NY**

## **ARTICLE I: NAME**

This designated group of parishioners is called

**St Patrick's Pastoral Council**

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## **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The Parish Pastoral Council assumes a consultative and advisory role to the pastor as per Canon Law, ever mindful of the concerns, hopes and needs of the parish while pursuing its mission. The Council by inquiry, reflection, deliberation and consensus presents recommendations to the Pastor who ultimately makes the final decisions.

## **ARTICLE III: MANNER OF OPERATION**

- A. The Council's ordinary manner of decision-making is by consensus.
- B. The Council conducts itself in a collaborative manner with individuals and groups in the parish.

## **ARTICLE IV: COUNCIL STRUCTURES**

- A. When considering matters which affect the entire parish, the Council operates as a committee of the whole. The Pastoral Council is comprised of selected, appointed and ex officio members.
- B. When dealing with matters specific to one of its committees, the Council operates through that specific committee.
- C. There are three types of Pastoral Council Committees:
  - a. The Executive Committee
  - b. Standing committees
  - c. Ad-hoc committees

- D. The Executive Committee consists of the Elected Officers of the Council with the Pastor as an ex officio member. This committee performs duties associated with the operation of the Council.
- E. The Standing Committees of the Pastoral Council are:
- a. Worship: This committee is concerned with the spiritual and liturgical celebrations of the Parish.
  - b. Education: This committee works on providing and assisting with educational programs to advance, enrich and encourage the Christian lives of our parishioners.
  - c. Buildings and Grounds: This committee is concerned with the physical appearance and functionality of the Parish's physical plant.
  - d. Social Life: This committee is concerned with social activities and ministries that develop the community spirit of the Parish.

#### **ARTICLE V: Member Responsibilities**

- A. Council members are concerned with of the long-term spiritual and physical well-being of the Parish. Members must discern the important areas for attention and communicate needs and ideas to other Council members and to our Pastor. Open, honest member exchange is essential to facilitate the Council's advisory duty to our Pastor.
- B. Council members should encourage all Parishioners to participate in Parish activities in order to utilize their talents and resources, matching them with opportunities and needs.

**PLEASE SEE THE BY-LAWS OF SAINT PATRICK'S PASTORAL COUNCIL FOR DETAILS OF THE ABOVE ARTICLES.**