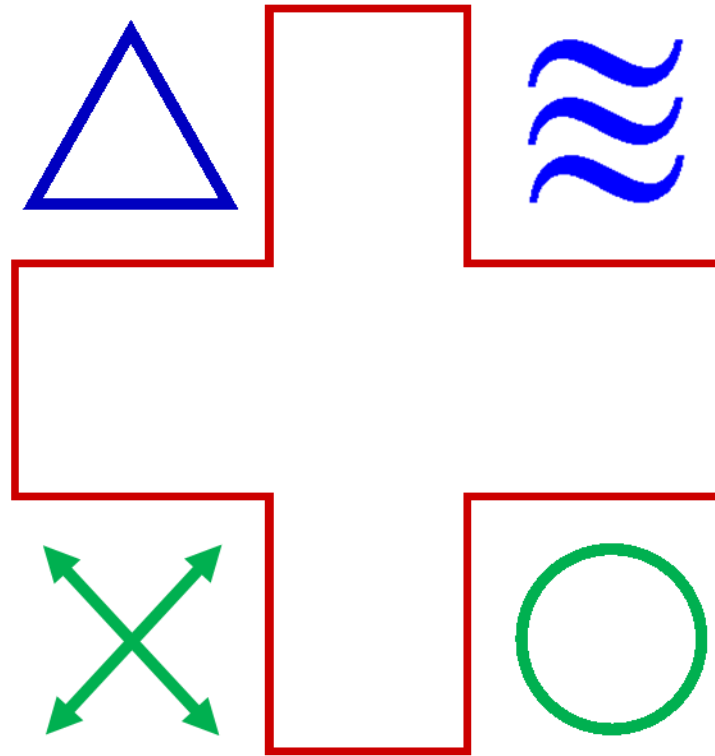


‘The Parish Pastoral Council is
a faith-filled leadership group
through which priests and people
work together
as co-responsible partners
in **furthering the mission of Christ
in their own parish.**’

**The early Christian Community
remained faithful to the apostles' teaching,
to fellowship,
to the breaking of bread,
to prayer...
the believers were together
and had everything in common...
they sold their property and possessions
to give to anyone who had need.**

Acts 2:42-45

The PPC logo



The Trinity was present at the birth of the Church in the Gospel of John. The Persons in whom we baptise are present in the Church. The Cross is the abiding symbol of our faith in Jesus Christ and our call to be disciples. It is always at the centre of all that we are and do. for our parish to be missionary both locally and globally.

Focus Areas for the PPC



LITURGY & PRAYER

Refers to how we celebrate Mass and the Sacraments. It also refers to the various forms of prayer we use: prayer groups, retreats, missions etc.



EDUCATION & FORMATION

Refers to all the activities (home, school or parish) that help people to know, appreciate and live their faith.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

Refers to the ways in which we create a sense of welcome and belonging in the parish. It is about including and connecting people.



OUTREACH

Refers to caring for those in need; the sick, housebound, poor etc. It also means working for justice and peace locally and globally.

My Parish **TODAY**

- ✓ What is working well?
- ✗ What is not working?
- ? What is missing?

A Prayerful Process for Decision Making

Identifying the Issue/Area for development

- How will this be identified and/or selected?
- Will it come from
 - *a wider Parish Pastoral Plan/Diocesan directives?
 - *a response to the Parish Mission Statement?
 - *a particular need as it arises?
 - *a vision of the Kingdom of God?
 - *a reflection on Scripture/Church Teaching?
- How free am I/are we to hear where and how God is calling?
- Am I/Are we aware of our own personal interests, prejudices etc.?
- Am I/Are we open to the outcome of the process?



**THE
ISSUE**

A Prayerful Process for Decision Making

Gathering Information

- .What is the (hi)story behind the issue? (*Past*)
- .What is the current reality? (*Present*)
- .What are our hopes for addressing the issue? (*Future*)
- .Where and how is God calling?
- .Who should we speak to for further information/support?

Options

- .Compile a list of possible options
- .Consider the positives & negatives of each option in the light of:
 - *Parish Mission
 - *Parish Pastoral Plan/Diocesan directives
 - *Resources/Scope of PPC



A Prayerful Process for Decision Making

Seeking Consensus

- .Listening and valuing reflections of ALL members of PPC
- .Open, honest, caring discussion
- .Repeat this until consensus reached
- .Does the outcome answer question:
 - .Where and How is God calling?
 - .Does it bring a sense of peace in the group?
- .Consensus is seeking the unity beneath our differences

VOTING

- **majority overpowering minority**
- **forces people to choose one of two sides**
- **defend own position**
- **defeat others**
- **“efficient”**

CONSENSUS

- **body that acts together or not at all**
- **no decision is made until everyone is willing to go along with it**
- **scrutinize my own views**
- **listen with care to others**

questionnaires
development
analysis learners
informal
effectiveness
method products
education
product
online
interviews
monitoring reliability
delivery educational
elearning
usability
formal
content
procedures
criteria outcomes
plan learning
design
data
collection courses
process
training
formative
monitored
summative tracking attitudes
efficiency
material technology

Question:

**How might you discern
the mission of Christ in your parish
as a Parish Pastoral Council?**

PASTORAL PLANNING

GOALS

What is a Goal?

Goals are brief, clear statements of outcomes to be reached within three to five years. Goals are broad, general descriptions that explain what is to be done and the desired result. The exact method of achieving the goal will come with the objectives.

In pastoral planning, goals are related to the areas of mission and should flow from the mission statement of the parish.

GOALS...

Goals are made up of three parts:

Action Verb: A goal begins with an action. Something is done and this verb describes that action. Some good verbs are: establish, develop, create, institute, implement, expand, deepen, etc. Regardless of the verb you choose to use, be sure it clearly expresses what is to be done.

Description of What You Will Do: Be clear yet succinct about what you plan to do in three to five years. It is not necessary to go into great detail. Be brief.

Quantity or Quality: Expand the basic description enough so that you have some means of measuring its success either in quantity or quality.

GOALS...

What is a good goal?

It is realistic. (SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time bonded)

It addresses the challenges of the future.

It clearly presents one central outcome.

It directly relates to an area of mission.

Some examples:

- To develop responsible lay leadership in the parish by encouraging all members to share their gifts.
- To establish neighbourhood faith communities in at least one-third of the parish.
- To develop a ministry of welcome and hospitality to new residents of the neighbourhood.
- To promote Catholic Social Teaching in all religious education programs.

PASTORAL PLANNING

OBJECTIVES

What is an Objective?

An objective is a brief, clear statement of an outcome to be reached within one year as a step toward each goal in the parish pastoral plan. An objective describes what is to be done, who will be affected and who will do it. The outcomes of an objective are stated in such a way that it is measurable. Each objective has a completion date as well.

PASTORAL PLANNING

OBJECTIVES...

Objectives are made up of four parts:

Action Verb: An objective is an action. Be sure that the verb you choose indicates a concrete action. Examples are to initiate, to design, to assess, to invite, to offer, to create, to use, etc.

A Task to be Completed: This is a statement of what is to be done in fulfilling the larger goal.

Target Group: This describes the people to be reached through the objective.

Completion Date: Name the date, within the next year, that the objective is to be completed.

PASTORAL PLANNING

OBJECTIVES...

Considerations

Objectives should be as practical as possible and may include:

Major Tasks Involved: List the steps to be taken and draw up a timeline for completion

Costs: Estimate the expenses and other resources needed to accomplish the objective

Leaders: Identify lead people who will be responsible for this specific objective. List all those who will need to be involved in carrying it out. One goal of the pastoral planning process is to get more people involved in the life of the parish. This is an opportunity to invite new people to take responsibility by asking them to be responsible for an objective. Objectives should not be designated to one person alone, but as a team.

PASTORAL PLANNING

OBJECTIVES...

Example of Objectives

GOAL: To establish neighbourhood faith communities in at least one-third of the parish

OBJECTIVES:

- To create a parish map and census by dd/mm/yy
- To offer three information sessions on neighbourhood faith communities for interested parishioners by dd/mm/yy
- To research available training materials on small Christian communities by dd/mm/yy
- To train 6 small faith community leaders by dd/mm/yy

PASTORAL PLANNING

OBJECTIVES...

Example of Objectives

GOAL: To enrich our worship life through expanded prayer opportunities in the parish.

OBJECTIVES:

- To begin Morning Prayer on days when there is no daily Mass during Advent.
- To recruit and develop leaders for Liturgy of the Word with Children by dd/mm/yy
- To begin Scripture reflection group each Thursday in anticipation of the Sunday Eucharist by dd/mm/yy

PASTORAL PLANNING

OBJECTIVES...

Each of these objectives should be followed by:

- Major tasks involved
- Costs
- Persons most affected by the objective and leaders involved in carrying it out

When creating an objective be sure to ask:

- Is it action oriented?
- Is it specific?
- Does it state a target group?
- Does it have a completion date?
- Does it identify leaders, costs, and those affected?

**In the light of areas
we have identified
can we attempt some
Pastoral Planning?**

WHO?

WHOM?

WHEN?

WHOSE?

QUESTIONS

HOW?

WHAT?

WHY?

WHERE?

WHICH?