

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH
LOVING AS CHRIST LOVES, SERVING AS CHRIST SERVES

Strategic Planning Committee
Charter

As sharers in the role of Christ as priest, prophet, and king, the laity has their work cut out for them in the life and activity of the Church. Their activity is so necessary within the Church communities that without it the apostolate of the pastors is often unable to achieve its full effectiveness. Strengthened by active participation in the liturgical life of their community, the laity is eager to do their share of the apostolic works of that community. The laity offers their special skills to make the care of souls and the administration of the temporalities of the Church more efficient and effective. (Excerpted from Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, No. 10)

As Christian faithful, we believe that it is essential that parish structures serve the community in carrying out the mission of the Church, especially the celebration the Eucharist, the preaching of the Gospel, and serving those in need. Parish organizational structures shall work to promote the mission of the parish, the diocesan Church and the universal Church.

Purpose

The role of the Strategic Planning Committee (hereafter referred to as the Committee) is to be consultative and advisory (Can 536.§2). In this context members are encouraged to seek the views of other parishioners on important matters and the Pastor is strongly encouraged to give due consideration to the advice and recommendations of the Committee.

The Committee, as a body representative of all the parish faithful under the leadership of the Pastor, serves in a consultative role to the Pastor by:

1. Reflecting on local, diocesan and universal Church priorities, recommending ways to integrate them into the life and ministry of the parish;
2. Periodically reviewing and evaluating the parish vision and mission statements, offering relevant revisions as discerned;
3. Evaluating progress toward achieving the long term pastoral plans, goals and objectives to achieve the parish mission and vision.

Membership

1. The Pastor, while not a member of the Committee, shall serve as the Chair of its meetings.
2. The membership of the Committee will consist of:
 - a. Clergy assigned or in Residence at the Parish, who will be ex officio members of the Committee;
 - b. The Parish Pastoral Associate, who will be an ex officio member of the Committee;
 - c. The Chair of the Finance Council, who will be an ex officio member of the Committee;

- d. Five parishioners appointed at-large by the Pastor;
3. Other members may be appointed as needed to support specific needs.

Terms of Office

Appointed Committee members shall serve a two-year term with the possibility of serving one subsequent term.

Recording Secretary

A Recording Secretary, elected by the Committee, will:

1. Maintain accurate records of Committee activities.
2. After consultation with the Pastor, prepare and distribute the agenda to Committee members prior to meetings.
3. Place appropriate notices in various parish media to keep the parish apprised of Committee activities.

Meetings

Committee meetings will be convened by the pastor at least three times a year.

All meetings of the Committee are open to the parish membership.

Meeting dates and times will be announced in parish media.

Subcommittees

Ad hoc subcommittees may be formed to conduct Committee business as appropriate.

Relationship with the Parish Community

The Committee is made up of parishioners and will maintain open dialogue with community members.

Relationship with the Pastoral Team and Parish Committees

The Committee is a resource to the Pastoral Team, staff members and parish committees.

Communication

It will be incumbent upon all Committee members to have open communications with each other and parishioners to ensure that all relevant opinions and information are openly discussed.

September 17, 2012