

## **PASTORAL COUNCIL NORMS**

Norm 1: Every parish in the Archdiocese of Atlanta is to have a parish Pastoral Council.

Norm 2: The parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body making recommendations to the pastor.

Norm 3: The pastor presides over the Pastoral Council.

Norm 4: The pastor consults the Pastoral Council on matters of major pastoral concern.

Norm 5: The purpose of the council is to promote the spiritual growth of the parish community and to plan ways for the parish to carry out the mission of the Church.

Norm 6: The council members represent the interests and the pastoral needs of the parish community.

Norm 7: Membership on the Pastoral Council, other than those who are members by reason of their office, is to be determined in a manner that allows parish community participation.

Norm 8: Pastoral Council members, other than those who are members by reason of their office, shall have limited terms.

Norm 9: The Pastoral Council will elect a Chair and other officers among its members.

Norm 10: Council meetings will be conducted with simplicity and with a spirit of discernment.

Norm 11: The Pastoral Council works with existing groups and forms new groups as needed to promote the spiritual growth of the parish and foster the mission of the Church, local and universal.