# FINANCE COUNCIL AND PASTORAL COUNCIL

Archdiocese of Newark

#### INTRODUCTION

The role of the pastor is to lead the parish spiritually, pastorally and financially

To accomplish this, he needs the entire wisdom of the people of God

#### INTRODUCTION

2 expressions of this are the Finance and Pastoral Councils

We want to explore the interrelationship between the 3

### HOW DO YOU SEE THE ROLE OF THE PASTOR?

All pastors bring different gifts and passions to their parish.

Grace builds on nature – different priest bring different gifts.

### HOW DO YOU SEE THE ROLE OF THE PASTOR?

Pastors need to shepherd the parish- what most priests are good at and want to do.

They must show a care for the people of God and the community entrusted to them.

#### **ROLE OF PASTOR**

They need to supervise and lead staff and volunteers.

To do this they need to know their communities.

#### **ROLE OF PASTOR**

They need to be administrators of the parish.

They need the help of committed parishioners to do that in an effective way.

### ROLE OF FINANCE COUNCIL

To advise and work with the pastor for the fiscal health of the parish.

To help the parish be good stewards of what has been entrusted to them.

Some pastors like administration and are very involved and some are not.

### ROLE OF FINANCE COUNCIL

They will relate to Finance Councils in different ways.

Some will see them as trusted advisors and partners while others will not accept their advice easily.

## ROLE OF PASTOR AND FINANCE COUNCIL

The Finance Council should see themselves as an important part of the life of the parish.

The Pastor should value their advice and make sure they have the information and opportunities to help the parish fiscally.

# ROLE OF THE PASTOR AND FINANCE COUNCIL

They can be guardians of the history of the parish and also those who have desire to see the vitality of the parish in the future.

This relationship needs to be talked about and explored on a regular basis.

An annual assessment of this relationship at the final meeting of the year would be a good practice.

# FINANCE COUNCIL AND PASTORAL COUNCIL

Role of the Pastoral Council is to have an overview for the pastoral vision and pastoral plan for the parish.

There needs to be a relationship between the Finance Council and the Pastoral Council because the Finance Council sees what is fiscally viable and helps the Pastoral Council see how the Pastoral Plan can be implemented in a realistic way.

# PASTORAL COUNCIL AND FINANCE COUNCIL

This brings hard decisions about that which can be done and that which may need to be postponed or done in a different way.

It brings the realities of both the fiscal and pastoral worlds together.

# WHAT CAN THESE RELATIONSHIPS LOOK LIKE?

Pastor needs to see the importance of both Councils and be committed to a healthy relationship between them.

There needs to be communication between the Pastor and both Councils.

# WHAT CAN THESE RELATIONSHIPS LOOK LIKE?

This can be done specifically around the budget and the pastoral plan.

There can be a joint meeting of the Councils around this or at least representation of one Council members at the meeting of the other Council.

# WHAT CAN THESE RELATIONSHIPS LOOK LIKE?

Do not depend on the pastor to be the link between the 2 Councils.

It means more of a time commitment but it will bear greater unity.

## NEXT STEPS FOR THE FINANCE COUNCIL

Take time at your next meeting to talk about the present relationship between the Pastor, Pastoral Council and Finance Council.

What does the relationship now?

## NEXT STEPS FOR THE FINANCE COUNCIL

What does it look like?

What would we like it to look like?

What are the practical steps that we can do to make sure the relationship is healthy?

## NEXT STEPS FOR THE FINANCE COUNCIL

Is there communication between all involved?

How are the pastoral and fiscal priorities set and what input do all those involved have?

#### CONCLUSION

This may lead to difficult conversations but that is healthy.

We can offer help in these conversations and plans.

#### CONCLUSION

This conversation needs to happen each time there is a change in pastor and the Councils.

All is done for the vitality and mission of the parish.

#### CONTACTS

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