



Constitution

Preamble

"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain"
(John 15:16)

Each of us received this call from God through Baptism and Confirmation and, as members of St. Mary's Parish, we share the responsibility to continue Jesus' mission.

As a community of families and individuals centered in Christ and His teachings; as a parish dedicated to fulfilling its ministry as disciples of Jesus; and as we seek to celebrate the tradition of our Roman Catholic faith, the Parish Council strives, through the Holy Spirit, to facilitate and coordinate His will through our community – to celebrate and bring the triune God in word, sacrament and faithful deeds to the world in which we dwell so that we will be known by how we love one another.

The council is called to be a representative group within the parish to stimulate in a positive way its many ministries and to serve as an advisory and consultative body for the Pastor, who is the chief administrative officer of the parish and the representative accountable to the Archbishop.

The goals of the Parish Council should include, but not be limited to:

- **Priorities and Planning** – to prayerfully discern the future needs of St. Mary's Parish and establish goals and objectives
- **Implementation** – promote and ensure parish programs and activities
- **Involvement** – fostering fruitful collaboration among the numerous ministries, groups and organizations within the parish and utilize in the most inclusive manner the gifts and talents of the members of the parish
- **Shared Ideas and Decision-making** – provide opportunities for constructive dialogue within the parish
Mission Statement of St. Mary's Parish

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We are a faith-filled community centered in Christ that gathers in our Father's love to celebrate in Word and Sacrament. We seek to grow in that love, to be guided by the Holy Spirit and to share an atmosphere of warmth and hospitality with all.