

Diocese of San Diego

CONSTITUTION OF THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

PREAMBLE

Responding to the call of the Second Vatican Council and wishing to invite the participation of the people of God in the full life and mission of the local Church of the Diocese of San Diego, the Bishop of San Diego hereby establishes a Diocesan Pastoral Council.

ARTICLE ONE: PURPOSE

It shall be the responsibility of the Diocesan Pastoral Council to investigate, under the direction of the Bishop, those matters which pertain to the pastoral mission of the Church and to propose practical suggestions concerning them.

ARTICLE TWO: MEMBERSHIP

- A. The bishop shall be the president and preside over meetings of the Diocesan Pastoral Council.
- B. Members should reflect the diocese with due regard for socio-economic and cultural consideration, as well as for diverse roles and vocations.
- C. Members of the council shall be drawn from those Christian faithful who are in full communion with the Catholic Church; membership should include primarily lay faithful.

ARTICLE THREE: AUTHORITY

- A. The council, as an advisory body assists the local bishop, addresses pastoral matters under his direction, and enjoys a consultative vote.
- B. It is for the bishop to make public any matters dealt with by the council.
- C. When the diocesan see is vacant, the council ceases to exist.

ARTICLE FOUR: MEETINGS

It pertains to the bishop to convoke the Council according to the pastoral needs of the diocese.

BYLAWS FOR THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

SECTION ONE: MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership on the Diocesan Pastoral Council shall consist of the following:

1. Sixteen lay persons, two per deanery, each from a different parish on a rotating basis; additional members are appointed at the discretion of the bishop.
- B. Appointed members shall have a positive vote in council deliberations. Moreover, their spouses may attend council meetings and enjoy a voice vote.
- C. Appointed members shall serve a two year term of office, when possible in a staggered manner.

SECTION TWO: MEETINGS

The Council shall have two regular meetings each per year and as many special meetings as the bishop may convoke.

SECTION THREE: FINANCES

Members are responsible for ordinary expenses incurred in the course of participation in Council activities.