



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

THE JESUIT PARISH IN SEATTLE

Motion Process

As some of you know, the Pastoral and Mission Council is reviewing a draft Constitution and Bylaws for the Pastoral and Mission Council and associated Commissions. In the Bylaws, we are proposing a “motions for consideration process.” listed below, that we would like to make available to the St. Joe’s community before enactment, to see how well it works. The motions process allows parishioners to formally bring issues to the Council and Pastor for consideration and a vote.

As you will see in the writing, motions may and should arise from parishioners and should be brought to Council Members. The Council Members in turn will discern and bring the motions to the chair for inclusion in the council agenda. Motions will be discussed and discerned by the Council, voted on and referred to the Pastor for confirmation of their discernment.

We welcome the use of this process using the directions in the draft, and if you have any questions about how to proceed with a motion, please contact the Council Executive Committee at pastoralandmissioncouncil@stjosephparish.org

Peace and blessings,

St. Joseph Parish Pastoral and Mission Council

“IGNITED BY THE EUCHARIST TO LOVE & SERVE”

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Motions for Consideration

- a. Motions may and should often arise from among Parishioners as the Holy Spirit moves among us, particularly in the context of official Parish ministries, ministry partnerships and affiliations, and community gatherings and the perceived needs of our neighbors. Parishioners may seek out Council Members in order to bring something before the Council and Pastor for consideration. Council Members ought to collaborate discerningly with regard to sponsoring a draft Motion to bring to the Chair.
- b. Any three Council Members or the Pastor may bring a Motion to the Council for consideration and Motions not sponsored by at least three Council Members will not be considered officially by the Council as a Motion but, at the discretion of the Chair and Pastor may be included in the agenda as a topic for general consideration and discernment.
- c. Motions are to be written and submitted to the Chair and Pastor at least ten days before the Council Meeting when they are to be considered as an official Motion of the Council.
- d. Motions are to be discussed and discerned by the Council before being brought to a vote, and if brought to a vote then referred to the Pastor, along with accompanying notes that capture the general spirit of the discussion and discernment, and the vote tally itself, in order that the Pastor, as the chief discerner of the Parish may confirm the discernment of the Council. The Pastor shall inform the Chair of his confirmation or rejection of the Council's discernment regarding a Motion and shall do so in written form.