

A COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES FOR ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

Restructuring St. Augustine's Parish Council

The overriding belief and certain conviction that lies at the heart of the Catholic faith is that Jesus Christ is alive. The grave does not hold his remains. He is not just remembered as a good and holy man who once lived and whose life continues to inspire people today. He is risen, he is with us now, he continues to carry on the work the Father sent him into the world to complete. It is from this central belief that the Church takes its identity and its purpose. Our identity is that we are Christ's Faithful, the Body of Christ in the world. Our purpose as a parish is to unite with Christ in carrying out His mission in the world today. His mission in the world is threefold:

TO TEACH, TO SANCTIFY, TO SHEPHERD.

The history of the Church as the **Mystery of Christ's Presence in Action** begins with Acts of the Apostles and continues through the stages of the Church's formation right up to our time. The Second Vatican Council has called on all the people of the Church to recognize their vocation, to join Christ in His on-going work and to exercise the gifts given them by God by serving in Christ threefold ministry within the Church.

It is this threefold model of the Ministry of Jesus that has inspired the model we wish to adopted for the structuring of our Parish Council. Simply described in point form it is this:

- 1.1 There are three overall **Pastoral Committees** reflecting Christ's threefold Ministry. They are as follows:
 - 1.1.1 Pastoral Committee of Christian Formation
 - 1.1.2 Pastoral Committee of Worship
 - 1.1.3 Pastoral Committee of Leadership & Service (Stewardship). This third Pastoral Committee is **THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The **Parish Council** has two committees

1.1.3.1 Parish Life Committee

1.1.3.2 Community Outreach Committee

- 1.2 The overall purpose of these committees is to foster ministry. Together with the Pastor and the Parish Pastoral staff. All will work to bring to life Christ's ministry in our parish.
- 1.3 Members of the Parish Council will serve on the other two Pastoral Committees as well as the two Parish Council Committees
- 1.4 Persons presently working in the various ministries and groups within the parish will be asked to serve on these committees. With the pastor they will help plan and coordinate the many and varied forms of ministry and service that make up the life of our parish.

On the next page is a paradigm of the Parish Council showing its structure as well as the various ministry areas and organizations of the parish that are incorporated into it reflecting the threefold ministry of Christ.