

Time for a new Pastoral Council at Blessed Trinity + Spirit of Christ

NEW PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATION PROCESS

WHAT IS THE PASTORAL COUNCIL?

THE Pastoral Council is a “prayerful community” of selected parishioners who, with the pastor and staff, reflect on the life of the parish, discerning both gifts and needs, setting priorities and charting a course for the future. The **PASTORAL COUNCIL IS CONSULTATIVE TO THE PASTOR AND PASTORAL STAFF**. Pastoral staff members serve as ex-officio members of the Pastoral Council. **The work of the Pastoral Council is accomplished through prayer, study, conversation, consensus and collaboration.**

HOW IS THE PASTORAL COUNCIL SELECTED?

The process to form a new Pastoral Council for **BLESSED TRINITY + SPIRIT OF CHRIST** begins on March 12, 2023. **Present members** of the Pastoral Council are Joan Butler (Chair), Cathy Burleson, Carolina Bridges,* Angela Weisbrich*, Mike Ricci,* Pat Logan.* **Eligible for nomination for a second term.*

Note on next page the required “Qualifications” to nominate and to serve on the Pastoral Council.

The process is not an “election” but rather a “selection.” It works this way:

- Beginning next Sunday, March 12, the process is introduced at the Sunday liturgy. Members of the assembly will be invited to begin thinking about who might serve on the Pastoral Council.
- **Nominating ballots will be provided at Mass, in the bulletin and on the parish website, March 19 through April 9.** At the PARISH BREAKFAST on March 19, all will be invited to discuss the Pastoral Council with one another. The nomination process will conclude on the Second Sunday of Easter, April 16 (parishioners have FIVE WEEKENDS to engage in the nominating process).
- **Specific and general qualifications to be considered in nominating persons** are published on the back page of this article and are available at church entrances and on the parish website (www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org (click the link on the opening page)).
- **FOLLOWING THE NOMINATION PROCESS** each person nominated will be contacted and asked if they are willing to accept the nomination. If they are willing to accept they must also agree to participate in a **TWO EVENING PASTORAL COUNCIL SELECTION WORKSHOP Monday May 1 and Tuesday May 2. These sessions begin each evening at 6:00 pm.**
- During these evening workshops the nominees will select from their number EIGHT to TEN persons from Blessed Trinity, and ONE to TWO from Spirit of Christ persons to serve as the Pastoral Council.
- The term of service will be three years. Following their selection they will select a chairperson.

THOSE WHO ARE NOMINATED MUST BE WILLING AND ABLE TO ATTEND THE SELECTION WORKSHOP ON MAY 1 & 2.

This time is an opportunity for all to consider our “full, conscious and active participation” in our parish.

“We pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and powerfully bring to fulfillment every good purpose and every effort of faith.”

2 Thessalonians 1:11.



Bulletin Insert March 5, 2023

MORE >>>

QUALIFICATIONS TO SERVE ON BLESSED TRINITY + SPIRIT OF CHRIST PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Pastoral Council fosters the "pastoral activity" of the parish in collaboration with the pastor and pastoral staff.

The following criteria, abilities or characteristics are helpful in determining parishioners you may wish to nominate:

A PERSON OF FAITH AND PRAYER

- ◆ A Catholic person of faith who witnesses that faith through example, prayer, shared worship and study;
- ◆ A person who recognizes that faith is a process of continued growth and transformation, i.e., a person willing to learn;
- ◆ A person who recognizes and attests to the value and importance of parish life, worship and ministry.
- ◆ A person of prayer and service.

A PERSON OF THE CHURCH

- ◆ A member of the Catholic Church in good standing with the Church;
- ◆ A person who embraces the vision of renewal articulated at the Second Vatican Council;
- ◆ A person who is familiar with and committed to Catholic Social Teaching;
- ◆ A person who is able to embrace the Catholic sense of mission and service.

A PERSON OF THE PARISH

- ◆ **AN ACTIVE, PARTICIPATING, REGISTERED MEMBER OF BLESSED TRINITY OR SPIRIT OF CHRIST FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS.**
- ◆ A parishioner who contributes to the parish from his/her time, talent and treasure.
- ◆ A parishioner who is PRESENT and PARTICIPATES at SUNDAY MASS at **BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY** or **SPIRIT OF CHRIST MISSION.**
- ◆ A parishioner who is present at parish gatherings, especially Sunday Faith Formation sessions, and other parish activities and educational opportunities.

A COLLABORATIVE PERSON

- ◆ A person who is compassionate and able to listen to the needs, concerns and gifts of others and is open to new ideas and concepts;
- ◆ A person of vision with an ability to see what might be possible;
- ◆ A person who can build community and who recognizes the diversity of ministry and people;
- ◆ A person who is responsible, able and willing to follow through with commitments;
- ◆ A person who is comfortable with the consultative nature, and consensus decision making of the Pastoral Council;
- ◆ A person who is available, i.e., one who has the time and is able to focus energy on the work of the Pastoral Council.



“QUALIFICATIONS” TO NOMINATE A PARISHIONER TO SERVE ON THE PASTORAL COUNCIL.

In order to nominate a person to serve on the Pastoral Council you must be a registered member of Blessed Trinity + Spirit of Christ.

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PARISHIONER NOMINATING.