

SALISBURY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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Ref: Admin/ChAdmin/PPC/Constitution

04 Oct 21

To: Proposed Council Members

CONSTITUTION FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL OF ST GREGORY'S SALISBURY

INTRODUCTION

1 The Parish Pastoral Council (The Council), as the body elected will be consultative and act in an advisory capacity to the Parish Priest, who has overall responsibility to the Bishop for the conduct of Parish Affairs, Sacred Liturgy and Finance.

PURPOSE

- 2 The purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council is to enable all parishioners to participate more fully in the life of the Church, as expressed in the decrees of the Second Vatican Council.
 - a. To this end, full co-operation between the Council, Parish Groups and the Parish Priest is essential. Parish groups are those operating in the name of, or on behalf of Salisbury Catholic Churches and St Gregory's and they are accountable to the Parish Priest and the Council.
 - b. The specific task of the Council is to initiate co-operation and promote the work and growth of the Church in two areas: Christian Formation and Social and Community Affairs.
- 3 The Council shall discharge these duties:
 - a. By reviewing regularly both areas;
 - b. By Councillors undertaking special responsibility for one area or one aspect of an area.
- 4 The Council should, for example:
 - a. Advise the Parish Priest about any matter on which he seeks advice;
 - b. Assess any needs referred to it by the Parish Priest, Parishioners or the other Parish Groups and, if possible, identify how best to satisfy those needs;
 - c. Support the work of Parish Groups, where possible by identifying priorities, making quick effective decisions and helping with exchange of information and ideas;
 - d. Promote active interest and participation by parishioners in the activities of the

Parish.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT

5. The Council shall assist the Parish Priest in:
 - a. Christian Formation: The church's fundamental mission of preaching the Gospel to everyone and empowering them to live in the Image of Christ.
 - b. Social and Community Affairs: Care for the wellbeing of people in all matters not specifically spiritual.

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

6. The Council shall consist of the Deacon nominated for that Parish, the Treasurer, the Parish Safeguarding Representative, and Representatives of the Parish. .

PRESIDENT

7. The President of the Parish Pastoral Council may be the person delegated to represent the Parish Priest.

CHAIR

8. The Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council shall be a person appointed by the Council from amongst its members.
9. There shall be a Vice-Chair appointed as above.
10. In the absence of the Chair and Vice-chair, those present of the Council shall agree a member to take the chair at that meeting.

TREASURER

11. The Parish Treasurer, appointed by the Parish Priest, shall be ex-officio member of the Parish Pastoral Council and a member of the Finance Committee.

SECRETARY

12. The Secretary shall be a lay person appointed by the Council from among its members.

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE

13. The Parish Safeguarding Representative, appointed by the Parish Priest, shall be an ex-officio member of the Council.

PARISH GROUP MEMBERS

14. Each organisation within the Parish shall nominate one Representative from their number to serve on the Council.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS

15. Those eligible to be nominated shall be persons who normally attend Mass in the Parish.

16. If a vacancy occurs during the year, a new member shall be nominated to complete the remaining term of office. A vacancy arises if a member dies, resigns in writing, or has not attended meetings on three consecutive occasions without reasonable cause.

17. When these positions are to be confirmed this shall be the first item of business after the opening prayer.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

18. The Council shall meet at least four times a year.

19. Council meetings shall be open to all parishioners. All present shall be invited to participate

20. Adequate notice shall be given of all meetings.

QUORUM

21. At a Council meeting, one third of all Council members shall be a quorum.

VOTING

22. Normally, voting at Council meetings shall be a show of hands [including the Chair's].

ANNUAL MEETING

23. Once a year, the Parish Priest shall convene the Parish for the annual report by the Parish Pastoral Council on parish activities.

SPECIAL PARISH MEETINGS

24. The Council, by a simple majority, or the Parish Priest can at any time, request that a meeting of the whole parish be held to discuss and vote upon any specific issue.

25. Adequate notice shall be given for such a meeting.

ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

26. The Council shall review the constitution at least every three years.

27. Any proposal to alter this Constitution shall be referred to the Council to consider and report to a special parish meeting.

28. All parishioners may vote on the proposed constitutional alteration. A majority of two thirds of those present, and entitled to vote, shall be required for the alteration to be accepted.

29. Adequate notice shall be given of the meeting.

Fr Anthony

Reverend Anthony B. Paris VF
Parish Priest