

Discernment Procedures

The Discernment Committee, composed of Donna Bockstanz and Janet Kilpatrick of St. James, Jim Jones and Rimini Klephart of St. Augustine, and Dean Rasco and Vicki McKenzie of St. Joseph, developed the following procedures and timeline necessary for the Discernment Process in order to get the new Leadership Council selected and in place by the first regular monthly meeting scheduled for the third Tuesday of September - September 19, 2017

Discernment Information Sessions:

Two Discernment Information Sessions will be held, a week apart and on different days of the week. For these first discernment sessions in the process of forming the new Leadership Council, it was suggested that a neutral location, and not one of the three parish churches, (maybe a neighboring parish) should be used so that all nominees from all three parishes will feel comfortable. The place for the Discernment Information Sessions TBA.

- Wednesday, July 19, 2017
- Tuesday, July 25, 2017

The sessions will be a relaxed social gathering. In a large room there will be food and drinks, provided by the Committee (parishes), and representatives from each of the Pastorate Committees will be asked to be present at tables with information about their committee. Current committee leadership will be notified of the dates and process of the discernment session and will be requested to send representatives to be available on these two nights. The committee representatives do not need to be from each of the three parishes, although that would be ideal since there may be some differences between parishes. Nominees will then be able to mingle and speak to current committee members to learn about individual committees and determine if they would be interested in serving on any committee.

In a separate room will be the six Discernment Committee members. Each nominee will individually come before the Discernment Committee, to tell a little bit about themselves, and express how they feel they could best serve the parishes, with an opportunity for questions being asked back and forth. The meeting will be only a few minutes for each nominee. Discernment Committee members will be keeping their own notes about each nominee as they are being interviewed. The nominees will then be asked to indicate on a form, as stated in the Constitution, in order of preference which group they feel they could best serve the Pastorate.

- At the end of the first night, the Discernment Committee will discuss the nominees interviewed while still fresh in our minds, and compare notes on each one.
- After the second session, the Committee will remain and discuss all nominees from both sessions. Using the discernment process, they will determine which nominees should be selected to the Leadership Council and which nominees will be asked to serve on one of the Pastorate Committees.
- Fr. John, based on Discernment Committee recommendations, will make the final determination of which members will serve the Pastorate and in what capacity. The new constitution allow for Fr. John to appoint new members as well.

Notification of New Council – By July 29, 2017 the nominees selected to serve on the Leadership Council will be notified by Committee Members. So that they can make plans to attend the Council Retreat. It will be stressed to all nominees that attendance at the Retreat and Commissioning Masses at each parish will be mandatory if they accept selection to the Leadership Council. We want members that are committed to serving the Pastorate and therefore will be present at these first required events.

Commission of New Council – In the spirit of bringing the three parishes together as one Leadership Council, it is very important that all 9 newly selected Leadership Council members be introduced and commissioned by Father John at all three parish churches, and not only the parish church that they are associated members. The dates below were selected based on when Father John is scheduled to celebrate Mass at each parish.

- Sunday, August 6th – St. Augustine 8:30 am Mass
- Sunday, August 6th – St. James 10:30 am Mass
- Sunday, August 13th – St. Joseph 10:15 am Mass

Leadership Council Retreat – Saturday, August 19th – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at St. Joseph.

All members of the newly formed Leadership Council will be asked attend the Council Retreat on Saturday, August 19th. This retreat will be held at St. Joseph's in Hagerstown. Father John will procure a Facilitator for this retreat. The purpose of which is to help the new Council get to know each other, set goals and objectives for the Council, get guidance for their new roles as Leaders of the Pastorate, and prepare for the first regular meeting held in September.

The day will begin with Mass being celebrated by Father John. Lunch will be brought in. By the end of the day, the new Council will elect their three Council Officers -- Facilitator, Co-Facilitator and Recording Secretary.

**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
NEW MEMBER DISCERNMENT NOMINATIONS**

“We Want You!”

Yes, you! You have gifts & talents --- and the Council is inviting all fellow parishioners to join us for a discernment process which encourages a prayerful and Spirit-driven consideration of how your gifts may contribute to the growth and development of our parish community!

Please share with us the name of someone (or more than one, including yourself!) as a Nominee for possible service on our Pastorates Leadership Council or one of its Committees (Evangelization, Faith Formation, Fundraising, Hispanic Life, Hospitality, Liturgy, Maintenance and Social Justice/Outreach,)

You may contact the Parish Office if you have any questions or need more information.

Nominees

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

All nominees will be contacted by the Discernment Committee. To be considered for selection, attendance at one of the following Discernment Sessions is required so the Discernment Committee can get to know you.

Discernment Sessions: July 19 and July 25 at 7:00 pm location TBD.