



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

May 15, 2025

Reverend and Dear Fathers, Parish Life Coordinators and Parish Director:

Re: Revised Appendix O: Articles and Bylaws of Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Councils

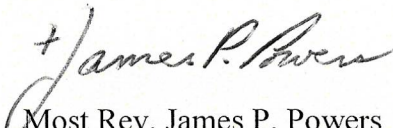
Back in March 31, 1987, in line with the Second Vatican Council's new vision for the Church, and the new Code of Canon Law promulgated in 1983, Bishop Raphael M. Fliss directed that every Catholic community in the Diocese of Superior have a Parish Pastoral Council and a Parish Finance Council in place by July 1, 1988. Since that time, those Articles and Bylaws have served the governance of the Councils well with very few changes.

On February 18, 2025, I released the new Diocesan Maintenance to Mission Pastoral Plan, recalibrating our structure to move into a mission focused way of planning. The Maintenance to Mission Pastoral Plan was the end result of several years of listening sessions at the parish, deanery and diocesan level. One of the major questions the Planning Committee had to deal with was the current clustering philosophy and organization of the Diocese. One of the Committee's main concerns was the number of parishes being clustered together under the pastoral and spiritual leadership of one priest, or Parish Life Coordinator, or Parish Director.

In the end analysis, a decision was made to keep our current clustering system in place, as it was deemed primarily effective. There are very few cluster modifications at this time as a result of this analysis. I am aware of the burden that multiple parish pastoral council and finance council meetings place on the Pastor, PLC, or Parish Director. Efforts were made to establish a means whereby the cluster could hold combined parish pastoral council and/or finance council meetings while protecting the individual parish identities and corporate structure.

With this possible change of meeting structure, many of the existing articles and bylaws from 1987 needed to be amended, and new procedures needed to be put in place. Attached to this letter, please find the Revised Appendix O: Diocese of Superior Articles and Bylaws for the Pastoral Councils and Finance Councils of the Diocese of Superior. Please take special note of the Addendums for the operation and functioning of the newly Combined Parish Finance Council and/or Combined Parish Pastoral Council meetings.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

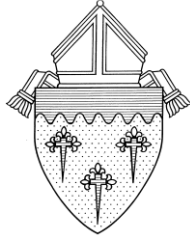

Most Rev. James P. Powers
Bishop of Superior

DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR

Articles and By-Laws
for
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS
and
PARISH FINANCE COUNCILS

Superior, Wisconsin
May 15, 2025

Adopted March 11, 1987
Printed May 6, 1991
Revised July 1, 1991
Revised January 21, 2002
Revised May 15, 2025



MISSION STATEMENT

DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR

The Catholic Diocese of Superior is a people of diverse ethnic and cultural traditions called in unity by the love of Christ to proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the sacraments, and give witness through joyful lives of prayer and service in Northern Wisconsin and throughout the world.

Bishop of Superior
November 8, 2011

PREAMBLE

The Parish Pastoral Council represents as well as witnesses to the parish community called by Jesus to be His disciples in the Church and the world.

The parish, with all its unity of faith and diversity of talents and gifts, is a contemporary participation in the prophetic, priestly, and royal life and ministry of Christ. With the bishop and his representative, the pastor, the parish community has shared responsibility before Christ. The council, a unit within the parish community, prayerfully and responsibly reflects how the parish is to fulfill the threefold mission of proclaiming Christ's word, celebrating with Him the sacramental liturgy, and serving His people.

By means of consultation, dialogue, consensus, and decision, it tries in an ongoing process to discern the presence and activity of His Spirit in the whole parish.

It joins in a team ministry with the pastor to listen to the local community, to adopt adequately its ways and means of implementing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for the evangelization of culture, the growth and development of the parish, and the building up of the kingdom of God.

THEOLOGICAL AND CANONICAL PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING THE STATUTES AND BYLAWS OF THE PARISH PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS¹

INTRODUCTION:

On January 25, 1983, Pope John Paul II promulgated a new Code of Canon Law for the Roman Catholic Church. It marks a major step in the implementation of the Second Vatican Council.

The documents of the Council clearly teach that the sacraments of Christian Initiation -- Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist -- call all the members of the Church to become involved in the threefold mission committed by Christ to the Church of praising God (worship), proclaiming the Good News of Salvation (teaching) and forming communities of faith (serving). In other words, all are called to ministry within the Church.

The 1983 Code adopts this conciliar teaching and makes it its own whenever it refers to the "Christian Faithful." This term, derived from the Council and incorporated into the Code of Canon Law, describes the fundamental unity of all members of the Church, lay and clerical alike, in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The parish is the concrete realization of the Church for most Catholics. It is here that they experience church. For the most part, therefore, ministry within the parish is the ordinary way in which members of the Christian Faithful exercise ministry. Such ministry takes a variety of forms, among them liturgical ministries (worship), Christian formation (teaching) and assisting in establishing parish policies and structures (serving) and being involved in their implementation.

The 1983 Code, again reflecting the teaching of the Council, describes a parish as a definite community of the Christian Faithful established on a stable basis within a particular (diocesan) Church (Canon 515). The focus of this description of a parish is not on the parish as a place where; that is, a geographical entity, but as a people who; that is, a community of the Christian Faithful.

The pastoral care of the community is entrusted to a pastor, under the authority of the Diocesan Bishop (Canon 515). This pastoral care includes the responsibility to preach the Gospel and nourish the Christian Faithful with the message of salvation, to celebrate the sacraments and lead the parish community in prayer, to foster works by which the spirit of the Gospel is promoted, to encourage family life and prayer, to assist in knowing and active participation in the sacred liturgy, to acknowledge and promote the proper role lay members of the Christian Faithful have in the Church's mission and to develop community leadership (Canons 528 and 529). Whenever the parish is entrusted by the diocesan bishop to a team of several priests or to a Parish Coordinator (cf. Canon 517), the mandate they receive from the bishop will describe the responsibilities that are theirs.

It is the whole parish community, priest and people, that is called continually to conversion, and through its ongoing conversion calls those around it to newness of life in Jesus Christ the Lord. This conversion takes many forms. It is a response to the call to holiness given to all in Baptism,

and it is a call to proclaim to itself and to others the message of salvation. It is expressed in works of charity and effected through hearing the needs of our sisters and brothers as they seek life and holiness. It extends far beyond mere financial support, for it calls the parish to stand for justice and to support the poor. In summary, a parish must accept the serious responsibility of ever renewing itself and the whole social order with the spirit of the Gospel. Thus, it is appropriate for the whole parish community to be concerned about Christian formation and worship, marriage and family life, culture and education, labor and economic justice, politics and freedom, the international order and world peace. The entire parish is to be concerned about life and ministry in the parish. All members of the parish express these concerns through prayer, the celebration of sacraments and coordinated activity.

Traditionally there are three sources of responsibility for the Church's communion and mission. Baptism and Confirmation are presented in the Council documents as the first and essential basis for this responsibility. All are equal in terms of their dignity as initiated Christians and regarding the responsibilities of the baptized. A second source is the gifts of the Spirit known as "charisms," whether the ordinary kinds that are found widely distributed in the Church or the more spectacular kinds that are spoken of in the Scriptures. There is a third source for certain offices or services provided in the name of the Church. Here, the hierarchy must provide authorization for someone to assume such responsibilities. Whatever the source, all are responsible for the threefold work that comprises the mission of the Church, to teach, to sanctify and to govern. Because responsibility for the mission of the Church is shared in differing, but equally valid ways, by those who are baptized and those who are ordained, the ministry of the members of the parish and of its pastor are interdependent.

PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLE I: BECAUSE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS ARE INVOLVED IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH, THEIR FORMATION, WHETHER INITIAL OR ONGOING, SHOULD INCLUDE PRAYERFUL REFLECTION.

Experience has shown that Parish Pastoral Councils that have been effective have possessed a strong realization of the serious need for times of prayerful reflection on the ministry of pastoral service the Council offers the parish. This is especially true in light of the fact that Parish Pastoral Councils are involved in the whole ministerial life of the parish, not just in matters related to administration. It is only in prayer that the members of the parish and of the Parish Pastoral Council can come to a true appreciation of the Council's role.

The parish has a right to informed leadership. Therefore, there should also be times for theological and pastoral reflection because of the leadership role candidates form and members of the Parish Pastoral Council fulfill in service to the parish community. Serious consideration also ought to be given to the articulation of the parish mission statement.

A parish mission statement is the body of principles which form the community's reason for exercising ministry in a particular manner. Each parish, simply because it is a distinct community of the Christian Faithful, has its own sense or spirit of mission which needs to be articulated, because it forms the underlying principle of ministry in the parish, which is the concern of the Council.

PRINCIPLE II: THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL PARALLELS THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL.

The 1983 Code of Canon Law, Canon 536, designates the parish council as the "Parish Pastoral Council" as a means of describing its broad responsibility. It parallels the Diocesan Pastoral Council, which advises the Diocesan Bishop, the pastor of the Diocesan Church, on matters related to pastoral ministry within the diocese.

Because the Parish Pastoral Council participates in responsibility for pastoral ministry within the parish and not just the administration of the parish, its purpose and goals are extensive. It should research the needs, the ideas, the hopes, the life and activity of the people of God, so that the whole parish community can effectively carry out the mission of the parish and fully participate in the ongoing conversion that is central to its life. The Parish Pastoral Council should constantly evaluate the parish in its conformity to the Gospel and those constitutive elements of the Gospel which call for understanding the implications of justice. In this sense, the Parish Pastoral Council shares in the decision-making process which assists the pastor in carrying out the leadership role that is his within the parish.

PRINCIPLE III: PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS ARE CONSULTATIVE IN NATURE.

Canon 515 describes a parish as a definite community of the Christian Faithful established on a stable basis within the Diocesan Church, with the pastoral care of the parish entrusted to a pastor. The essential elements of a parish, therefore, are community and pastoral care. Canon 529, n.2, sees the pastor's primary obligation as building a sense of community within the parish, and promoting the parish's communion with the broader ecclesial communities of the diocese and of the whole Church. He is the visible, personal point of unity for the parish community and, through his membership in the presbyterate, its representative to the diocesan and universal Church.

Consultation, as it is envisioned in the Code, is an exercise of collegiality. The collegial process is not a delegation of power, but rather a mode of acting with a spirit and set of principles related to the pursuit of the mission of the Church. Archbishop William Borders of Baltimore describes collegiality as a mode of action whereby all the baptized according to their responsibility participate in and exercise authority derived from Jesus Christ. It permits and enlists the voice of all its members in the determination of the direction the Church should pursue in fidelity to the Gospel. Archbishop Borders refers to the collegial process as incorporating "consultative authority." He distinguishes this "consultative authority" from "jurisdictional authority." Jurisdictional authority rests on the mandate from Christ to teach, to guide and to govern. It is related to the sacrament of orders.

Consultative authority is rooted in the responsibility of all the baptized to pursue the common good of the Church. It is present in the emerging consensus flowing from the combined gifts and multiple experiences of the people of God, and it is informed by the same Holy Spirit that informs those with jurisdictional authority.

Consultative authority is a true form of authority. It establishes a responsibility for accountability. This accountability stems from the fact that the Parish Pastoral Council is constituted by baptized persons, all of whom share in responsibility for the mission of Christ (cf. William Borders, "Collegiality in the Local Church," Origins 9 [1980]: 511-512).

PRINCIPLE IV: MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL IS TO BE TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PARISH.

The numbers of members of the Parish Pastoral Council will vary depending on the parish and its size, character, and needs. Care should be taken to ensure that its membership is large enough to ensure adequate representation of groups and geographical sections. At the same time, its membership should be small enough to facilitate its functioning with ease.

NOTE A: The Parish Pastoral Council Bylaws provide for no fewer than four (4) or no more than twelve (12) members to accommodate the various sizes and needs of our parishes. The Parish Finance Council Bylaws likewise allow for a range of three (3) to five (5) members.

PRINCIPLE V: THE CODE OF CANON LAW PRESCRIBES THAT THE PASTOR PRESIDES OVER THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL. (In cases where the Bishop has appointed other pastoral leadership, due to a shortage of priests and which is allowed by Canon 517.2, Parish Life Coordinators (Permanent Deacons) and Parish Directors (Lay woman or man) will act in this capacity, except for those rights and responsibilities specifically reserved for the Canonical Pastor.)

Canon 536, n.1, prescribes that the pastor presides over the Parish Pastoral Council. This presidency is rooted in his presidency over the parish community which is liturgically expressed in the celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy. The Eucharist forms the community and expresses its nature. The pastor presides over the liturgy because he presides over the community, and he presides over the community because he presides over its liturgy, and both presidencies are inseparably related to his involvement in the life of the parish community and his pastoral ministry to it.

The pastor's presidency over the Eucharistic Liturgy sets a pattern for his presidency over the community and over the Parish Pastoral Council which represents it. The celebration of the liturgy recognizes many ministries: the ministry of proclaiming the Word of God and of distributing Communion, the ministry of music and of service at the altar, the ministry of greeting and of welcoming, to provide just a few examples. The pastor's presidency over the parish and over its council likewise is to express his coordinating function over ministries in the parish and his sharing of ministry in the parish.

The presiding role of the pastor must be seen in the context of the process of decision making, a process which involves many stages. Robert T. Kennedy distinguishes between decision making (a process) and choice making (a part of the process). He traces several stages of the process which include producing creative ideas, gathering factual data, making a choice among alternative options, implementing and evaluating the choice made. Integral to the whole process is the collaboration of the pastor and the Parish Pastoral Council. In virtue of his office, the pastor presides over and ratifies these stages of the process leading up to and including the final choice and its implementation (cf. Robert T. Kennedy, "Shared Responsibility in Ecclesial Decision Making," quoted in the Code of Canon Law, A Text and Commentary, edited by the Canon Law Society of America, p. 536, [Hereafter this Commentary will be referred to as Commentary]).

For the sake of accountability to the diocesan bishop whom he represents and to the people of God whom he serves, the pastor must ratify the recommendations of the Parish Pastoral Council before they can be implemented. Likewise, he must prevent the Parish Pastoral Council from endorsing proposals which would be contrary to the universal law of the Church, diocesan statutes and civil law (cf. Commentary, p. 536).

It is fitting that the pastor be president of the council and preside over the Parish Pastoral Council by his complete involvement in the decision-making process. The council, however, elects from among its members a chairperson who conducts meetings.

This arrangement expresses the underlying theological principle of collegiality; that is, representative members of the parish forming one body with their pastor in caring for the life and ministry of the parish. The election of a chairperson stands as a visible sign of shared responsibility. Finally, from a practical point of view, when the pastor is freed from conducting the meeting, he is at the same time enabled to be more attentive to the thoughts, ideas and plans that are being expressed.

When it has been determined by the Bishop that there is a shortage of Canonical Pastors in his diocese, Canon Law provides the local ordinary the right to appoint a deacon, lay person or group of people, for the care of the faithful. This care includes the areas of teaching, sanctifying, and administration (Canon 517, §2; 528-537), as well as other pastoral responsibilities not specifically reserved for a Canonical Pastor. Note that in the Diocese of Superior those entrusted and appointed by the diocesan Bishop to exercise and fulfill these roles are called: a Parish Life Coordinator (permanent deacon) or a Parish Director (lay woman or lay man). In these cases, a priest, generally an international priest with temporary status serving in the diocese, is assigned by the Bishop as a Sacramental Minister to facilitate the fulfillment of Sacramental life within the parish or cluster. In addition, a priest, usually the Dean, is assigned by the Bishop as the official Canonical, Supervising Pastor

PRINCIPLE VI: THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AND THE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL, THOUGH DISTINCT IN FUNCTION, ARE INTERDEPENDENT.

Canon 537 of the Code of Canon Law prescribes that the Parish Finance Council is distinct from the Parish Pastoral Council because each has responsibility for distinct aspects of parish life and the membership of each is different. The Parish Pastoral Council is responsible for the pastoral life and ministry of the parish, the Parish Finance Council, for finances. The Parish Pastoral Council is to be representative of the whole parish in its membership; membership of the Parish Finance Council looks to persons skilled in finance, civil law and business (Canon 492).

Despite these distinctions, the two councils are interrelated because both are concerned with the life and ministry of the parish. The Parish Pastoral Council looks to the Parish Financial Council for the resources needed to implement its programs, policies and ideas.

NOTE A: An example of the interrelatedness of the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Finance Council is the annual process of planning the parish programs and ministries and the financial budget which accompanies them. The Parish Pastoral Council, with the Pastor, envisions the parish program and ministries in the light of the parish's mission and goals. The Parish Finance Council, with the Pastor, then determines the total cost to the parish of the proposed program and ministries and, with the knowledge of available financial resources, advises the Pastor about the fiscal feasibility of the program. The Pastor, with the Parish Pastoral Council, then makes the final decisions about the program and ministries, with any changes that they may deem necessary.

NOTE B: The bylaws for the Parish Pastoral and Parish Finance Councils facilitate this interdependence by the ex officio membership of one parish trustee on the Parish Pastoral

Council (Trustee that is the Secretary of the Corporate Board) and the other on the Parish Finance Council (Trustee that is the Treasurer of the Corporate Board) in addition to the ex officio membership of the Chairman of the Parish Finance Council on the Parish Pastoral Council.

PRINCIPLE VII: THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL SHOULD ESTABLISH THOSE COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS WHICH WILL DIRECTLY ASSIST IN THE WORK OF THE PARISH.

Committees are the usual way in which bodies such as Parish Pastoral Councils research data for their deliberations and implement their decision. Some committees are standing committees, caring for ongoing needs of the council such as elections, membership, etc.; others are ad hoc, i.e., related to specific concerns. Care should be taken lest committees be established which have no specific function or work. Standing committees and their responsibilities should be specified in writing.

NOTE A: The bylaws for the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Councils specify no predetermined committees. This is left somewhat open-ended so that committees may be established according to the needs and resources of each parish. There must be committees established that assure the essential mission areas of the Church are fulfilled, such as: Spiritual Life and Liturgy/Worship, Catholic Christian Education and Formation, Human Concerns and Services, Administration and Maintenance Services (Buildings and Grounds), Evangelization and Vocations.

NOTE B: Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Councils for a cluster of parishes may require special accommodation. Each parish in a cluster is required to have its own Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council for the sake of maintaining its own corporate identity as a faith community. However, some pastors may find it prudent, appropriate or practical to establish joint committees between the clustered parishes. Such a joint committee may, for example, be comprised of the chairperson of the Parish Pastoral Councils involved or perhaps the Executive Committees of the Parish Pastoral Council or other combinations. Also see the Addendums following each of the Articles and Bylaws in this Appendix O. It is strongly encouraged that each cluster of parishes meet at least annually with the entirety of their Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Councils.

PRINCIPLE VIII: THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL SHOULD SPECIFY THE NUMBER OF TIMES EACH YEAR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL WILL MEET.

The importance of regularly scheduled meetings should be stressed so both members and parishioners know when the Parish Pastoral Council meets. The Council should also specify its position on the questions of open meetings and executive sessions. The number of meetings each year should be determined by such objective standards as the needs of the parish or the amount of work involved in serving the parish well but must meet no less than four (4) times per year/quarterly.

FOOTNOTE

¹A compilation of annotated excerpts derived from Guidelines for Parish Pastoral Councils, 1985, by the kind permission of the Office of Pastoral Planning - Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis.

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ARTICLES of the
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL of _____

ARTICLE I - Name

The name of this association is "The Parish Pastoral Council of _____."

Special Note: In cases where the Bishop has appointed other pastoral leadership, due to a shortage of priests and which is allowed by Canon 517.2, Parish Life Coordinators (Permanent Deacons) and Parish Directors (lay woman or man) will act in this capacity of the "Pastor," except for those rights and responsibilities specifically reserved for the Canonical Pastor.

ARTICLE II - Purpose

- Section 1. To investigate under the authority of the Pastor all those things which pertain to pastoral works, to ponder them and to propose practical conclusions about them.
- Section 2. To be an effective channel of communication between the Christian faithful and the Pastor so as to foster pastoral activity at all levels.
- Section 3. To offer counsel to the Pastor on matters affecting the life and ministry of the parish community.
- Section 4. To fulfill its purpose in the spirit and orientation prompted by the attached Theological and Canonical Principles.
- Section 5. To assist the Pastor in assuring that all diocesan wide policies are followed, as well as Canon Law.

ARTICLE III - Duration

- Section 1. The Parish Pastoral Council shall be established for a period of time according to the prescriptions of the articles which are issued by the Diocesan Bishop.

ARTICLE IV - Membership

- Section 1. The Parish Pastoral Council shall consist of the faithful who are registered Catholic Parishioners, in full communion with the Catholic Church and who are designated for membership in a manner specified by the Bylaws.
- Section 2. The Catholic faithful who are members of the Parish Pastoral Council must be selected in a manner which truly reflects the entire portion of the people of God which constitute the parish. Accordingly, membership selection must give due regard to the diverse regions, social conditions and profession of the parish and to

the roles which potential members have in the apostolate either as individuals or in conjunction with others.

Section 3. Only registered Catholic parishioners of proven faith, good morals and outstanding prudence may be elected or appointed to the Parish Pastoral Council.

Section 4. The membership of the Parish Pastoral Council enjoys a consultative vote.

ARTICLE V - Officers

Section 1. The officers shall be President, Chair, Vice-chair and Secretary.

Section 2. The Pastor shall be the President.

Section 3. The manner of appointment and duties of the officers are specified in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI - Committees

Section 1. Standing committees may be established by the Parish Pastoral Council with the approval of the Pastor. Such committees that should be established are Liturgy/Worship, Evangelization, Stewardship, Catholic Christian Formation, Building & Grounds, Human Concerns/Outreach Ministry, Vocations.

Section 2. Ad hoc committees may be established by the Parish Pastoral Council or the chair, and with the approval of the Pastor.

ARTICLE VII - Meetings

Section 1. The Pastor alone has the right to convoke the Parish Pastoral Council according to the necessities of the apostolate and to preside over it. Parish Pastoral Council members **may not** meet without the Pastor except in the case when the pastor has been called away for an emergency situation at the time of the established meeting and gives his specific permission for the Council to meet. Discussion can take place at such meetings, but no voting will take place. The Chairperson will inform the Pastor of discussion recommendations at the earliest time possible following a rare meeting without the Pastor present.

Section 2. The Parish Pastoral Council shall be convoked no less than four (4) times per year/quarterly and in accordance with the frequency specified in the Bylaws.

Section 3. If an executive session is called, the Pastor alone may make public what transpired during the executive session.

ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

- Section 1. If a Council member has a proposed amendment, a written proposal for amendment should be submitted to the Bishop prior to a Council vote to determine whether it is even appropriate to be considered.
- Section 2. Notification of proposed amendments to these Articles must be made to the membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which they will be voted upon.
- Section 3. Proposed amendments become effective only after approval by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at a meeting and approval by the Diocesan Bishop.

Approved on May 15, 2025, at the Bishop's Office, Superior.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James P. Powers".

Most Rev. James P. Powers
Bishop of Superior

BYLAWS of the
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL of _____

Special Note: In cases where the Bishop has appointed other pastoral leadership, due to a shortage of priests and which is allowed by Canon 517.2, Parish Life Coordinators (Permanent Deacons) and Parish Directors (lay woman or man) will act in this capacity of the “Pastor,” except for those rights and responsibilities specifically reserved for the Canonical Pastor.

ARTICLE I - Membership

Section 1. There shall be no fewer than four (4), nor more than twelve (12) members.

Section 2. Membership shall be of three (3) kinds: Ex officio, elected and appointed.

A) The following shall be ex officio members:

- 1) One (1) Parish Trustee who is not on the Parish Finance Council; this member must be the Secretary of the Corporate Board.
- 2) The chairperson of the Parish Finance Council.
- 3) Parochial Vicars and Sacramental Ministers should attend all meetings. They may participate in the discussions but do not have a vote.

B) No fewer than two (2), nor more than eight (8) shall be elected in accordance with Article I, Section 3 of these Bylaws.

C) The Pastor may appoint up to two (2) persons at large to facilitate proper representation on the Council.

- 1) Appointed members shall serve for a four (4) year term in accordance with Article I, Section 3:D & F of these Bylaws.

Section 3. The following norms shall apply to the election process:

A) Every two (2) years during the month of February the Pastor shall appoint three (3) parishioners to the nominating committee which shall:

- 1) Nominate twice as many candidates as the number to be elected in accordance with Article 1, Section 2: B.
 - a) During the month of April, the adult parishioners will be given a ballot on which they may vote for no more than half of those nominated whom they judge would be suitable members of the Parish Pastoral Council.

B) Elections shall be for a four (4) year term on a rotating basis.

- C) At the outset, however, half those elected shall serve for two (2) years and half for four (4) years as determined by the nominating committee.
- D) Those appointed or elected shall serve for no more than one four (4) year term and they may not succeed themselves for a consecutive term. Those completing a partial or unexpired term would, however, be eligible for re-election to an additional four (4) year term.
- E) The following norms shall apply to vacancies in the elected positions:
 - 1) Vacancies in the terms of elected members occur by death, absence from the diocese for more than six (6) consecutive meetings, resignation or failure to attend three (3) successive meetings.
 - 2) Vacancies shall be filled within one (1) month of their occurrence by an appointment made by the Pastor after due consultation with the Parish Pastoral Council. Said appointment shall be effective until the next election.
- F) Members appointed or elected shall assume membership at the meeting immediately following their appointment or election.

ARTICLE II - Officers

- Section 1. The Pastor shall be the President
- Section 2. The President shall arrange for the election of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.
- Section 3. Officers other than the President shall hold office for no longer than two (2) successive one-year terms.

ARTICLE III - Duties of Officers

- Section 1. The President shall:
 - A) Preside over all meetings.
 - B) With the assistance of the Chair, prepare the agenda for the meetings and ensure that the Secretary receives the approved agenda for distribution to all members at least two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled meeting.
- Section 2. The Chair shall:
 - A) Conduct all meetings.

- B) Assist the President in the preparation of the agenda.
- C) Appoint chairs and members to various standing and ad hoc committees.
- D) With approval by the President, help to assure that all positions on the Council and its committees are filled and function in accordance with the Bylaws.
- E) Perform all other duties assigned by the President.
- F) The chair shall serve on the executive committee.

Section 3. The Vice chair shall:

- A) Assume the responsibility of the chair in the chair's absence.
- B) Perform all other duties assigned by the chair.
- C) The Vice-Chair shall serve on the executive committee.

Section 4. The Secretary shall:

- A) Notify the members of all meetings and of their agenda at least two (2) weeks and not more than four (4) weeks prior to the meetings, except in the case of special meetings.
- B) Be responsible for recording the minutes of the meetings and distributing them to the members within two (2) weeks after the meeting. A recording secretary may be employed to record the minutes.
- C) Perform all other duties assigned by the chair.
- D) The secretary shall serve on the executive committee.

ARTICLE IV - Committees

Section 1. Standing and/or ad hoc committees shall be established by the Council as needed with the approval of the Pastor. (cf. Principle VII, Notes: A, B).

Section 2. Standing committees shall be appointed by the chair in consultation with the Pastor and shall include at least one Parish Pastoral Council member. Committee members shall be appointed to a two (2) year term and may be reappointed.

Section 3. Standing committees may form sub-committees, whose members need not be members of the Parish Pastoral Council.

- Section 4. The following norms will govern ad hoc committees:
- A) The chair may establish ad hoc committees as needed.
 - B) Members need not be members of the Parish Pastoral Council.
 - C) Committees will cease existence automatically within one (1) year unless determined otherwise by the chair.
- Section 5. The chair of the Council shall appoint the chairs of all committees.
- Section 6. All committee chairs are responsible for calling meetings when needed and for recording the minutes of each meeting. Committee reports should be provided to the full council in written, oral or other means of reporting determined by the Pastor.
- Section 7. The Executive Committee:
- A) Is comprised of the Officers of the Council.
 - 1) Parochial Vicars and Sacramental Priests are also encouraged to attend these meetings but do not have a vote.
 - B) Is empowered to act for the Council as deemed necessary by the Pastor in situations where the full Council cannot be convened.

ARTICLE V - Meetings

- Section 1. The Council must be convoked no less than four (4) times per year/quarterly. The Pastor together with the Council may schedule additional regular meetings (cf. Principle VIII).
- Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the Pastor.
- Section 3. All meetings shall be held at a place designated by the Pastor.
- Section 4. All meetings shall be open; except that the Council members may call for executive sessions when they deem it appropriate.

ARTICLE VI - Procedures

- Section 1. To facilitate consensus, Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings except in those matters specified otherwise in the Constitution or Bylaws.
- Section 2. A quorum consists of a simple majority of the members for all meetings.

ARTICLE VII - Amendments

- Section 1. If a Council member has a proposed amendment, a written proposal for amendment should be submitted to the Bishop prior to a Council vote to determine whether it is even appropriate to be considered.
- Section 2. Notification of proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be made to the members at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which they will be voted upon.
- Section 3. Proposed amendments become effective only after approval by a majority vote of those present at a meeting and approval of the Diocesan Bishop.

Approved on May 15, 2025, at the Bishop's Office, Superior

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James P. Powers", preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Rev. James P. Powers
Bishop of Superior

ADDENDUM - COMBINED CLUSTER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

To address the challenge of maximizing resources in your cluster of parishes, you may elect to hold Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council meetings. Depending on the size of parishes in your cluster, you may also choose to have combined meetings of the smaller parishes and individual meetings with larger parishes, particularly if they have a school.

In the spirit of good stewardship and mission this structure allows for streamlined operations and resource sharing while maintaining the autonomy and individuality of each parish. It reduces the administrative burden on the pastor, ensures accountability, and maximizes the talents of the few quality volunteers and staff you may have.

1. Purpose and Scope

- Although not governed specifically by Canon Law, Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council Meetings are permitted and promulgated by the Bishop of the Diocese of Superior.
- Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council Members are to represent and witness to all parishioners in the cluster as well as the wider community.
- The Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council prayerfully and responsibly reflects how the parish fulfills its three-fold mission of:
 - Proclaiming Christ's Word
 - Celebrating the Sacraments and liturgy
 - Serving Christ's people

2. Canonical and Diocesan Compliance

- Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Councils meet jointly to fulfill the same purposes as listed in Article II – Purposes of the Parish Pastoral Council.

3. Membership

- Membership: Members should be appointed/selected in accordance with the general Articles and Bylaws for Parish Pastoral Councils.
- Representation: Each parish in the cluster will appoint at least two (2) representatives at large, plus the Secretaries of each Corporate Board (no less than three (3) per parish total) to the Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council. All parishes should be represented equally. Selection of these members should follow Article IV – *Membership of the Parish Pastoral Council*.
- Pastor's role: The pastor will serve as the President of the combined council with the authority to consult the members on the use of parish resources, overall cluster resources, particularly regarding investigating local pastoral needs and resources, continuing formation of council members, intentional prayer, and as per diocesan norms and directives.
- Council Chair: A lay chairperson should be appointed from among the representatives to coordinate meetings and agendas. The chairperson's position should be rotated annually.

Equal opportunity should be given to members of all parishes within the cluster for this role.

4. Meeting Frequency and Structure

- Meeting Schedule: Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Councils will meet at least quarterly/four (4) times per year, or at a frequency that facilitates the local pastoral realities, needs and good stewardship of cluster resources, gifts and talents. This should also include the sharing of each parishes efforts in implementing Bishop's Pastoral Letter on Evangelization and the Diocesan Pastoral Plan.
- Agenda: The agenda will consist of two parts:
 - Common Agenda: Issues related to shared resources, joint initiatives, and cluster-wide events or needs.
 - Parish-Specific Matters: Each representative may bring up parish-specific concerns for discussion at the discretion of the pastor, ensuring no parish's interests are neglected.
- Minutes and Reporting: Meeting minutes will be prepared and circulated among all councils and the diocese as required. Transparency will be maintained through regular reporting to parishioners of each parish.

5. Areas of Collaboration

- Areas of collaboration for Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council meetings will be determined by the Pastor, in consultation with Parish Pastoral Council members from each parish within the cluster and will be reflected on the combined meeting agenda.
- Standing Committees and Ad hoc Committees: Can be established as deemed necessary and in accord with the Diocesan Pastoral Plan (February 18, 2025)

6. Decision-Making Process

- Decisions concerning matters of shared initiatives will be made by the pastor after consultation with the Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council members.
- Consultation with Individual Councils: To benefit from cluster-wide collaboration, and to ensure the individual parish's identity and autonomy, decisions will be made by the pastor after consultation with the Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council members of that individual parish.
- Assist in creating budgets for approval in special areas of pastoral initiatives.
- It is expected that parishes within the cluster work together collaboratively in all pastoral ministries.

7. Transparency and Accountability

- Minutes from all Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council meetings should be posted for the benefit and understanding for all parishioners.

8. Communication with Parishioners

- Regular updates on the activities and decisions of the Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council will be communicated to parishioners through bulletins, newsletters, or parish-wide meetings. This ensures that parishioners remain informed and engaged in the ministerial health of both their individual parish and the cluster as a whole.
- Communication to the entirety of each parish within the cluster should be transparent and reflective of vision, mission and goals of the Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Councils.

9. Adaptability

- This Addendum is subject to review and amendment based on the evolving needs of the cluster and any directives from the diocese. The Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council will re-evaluate the efficiency of the joint meetings and adjust as necessary to better serve the pastor and parishioners. Any modification not expressly communicated from the diocese, will need to be submitted in writing and approved by the Bishop.

10. Diocesan Approval

- Combined Cluster Parish Pastoral Council meetings will follow this addendum.
 - If a Council member has a proposed amendment to this Addendum a written proposal for amendments should be submitted to the Bishop prior to a Council vote to determine whether it is even appropriate to be considered.
 - Notification of proposed amendments to this Addendum must be made to the members at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which they will be voted upon.
 - Proposed amendments become effective only after approval by a majority vote of those present at a meeting and approval of the Diocesan Bishop.
-

ARTICLES of the
PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL of _____

ARTICLE I - Name

The name of this association is "The Parish Finance Council of _____."

Special Note: In cases where the Bishop has appointed other pastoral leadership, due to a shortage of priests and which is allowed by Canon 517.2, Parish Life Coordinators (Permanent Deacons) and Parish Directors (lay woman or man) will act in this capacity of the "Pastor," except for those rights and responsibilities specifically reserved for the Canonical Pastor.

ARTICLE II - Purpose

- Section 1. To provide consultation to the Pastor so that he may act justly and prudently in the administration of the parish's temporal goods in accord with the requirements of Canon 537.
- Section 2. To assist the Pastor in assuring that all financial diocesan wide policies and procedures are followed.
- Section 3. To prepare and monitor the parish budget.
- Section 4. To develop and monitor policies for the proper maintenance of the parish buildings and grounds.
- Section 5. To prepare and review the annual financial report.
- Section 6. To offer long-range financial planning and fundraising advice.
- Section 7. To be attentive to canon and civil law pertaining to the administration of the temporal goods of the parish.
- Section 8. To fulfill its purpose in the spirit and orientation prompted by the attached Theological and Canonical Principles.

ARTICLE III - Duration

- Section 1. The Council does not cease to exist upon the death or transfer of the Pastor.

ARTICLE IV - Membership

- Section 1. The Parish Finance Council shall consist of the faithful who are registered Catholic Parishioners, in full communion with the Catholic Church and who are designated for membership in a manner specified by the Bylaws. (Christians of

other faiths may be considered in rare cases, according to particular expertise and need.)

- Section 2. The Catholic faithful who are appointed to the Parish Finance Council should also have skills in finances, civil law and business in accordance with the requirements of Canon 492.
- Section 3. Only registered Catholic parishioners of proven faith, good morals and outstanding prudence may be appointed to the Finance Council.
- Section 4. The membership of the Parish Finance Council enjoys a consultative vote, and this consultative vote is to be provided with due regard for the prescription of Canon 532.
- Section 5. Parochial Vicars and Sacramental Priests are also encouraged to attend these meetings but do not have a vote.

ARTICLE V - Officers

- Section 1. The officers shall be President, Chair, Vice-chair and Secretary.
- Section 2. The Pastor shall be the President.
- Section 3. The manner of appointment and duties of the officers are specified in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI - Committees

- Section 1. Standing committees may be established by the Parish Finance Council with the approval of the Pastor.
- Section 2. Ad hoc committees may be established by the Parish Finance Council or the chair, and with the approval of the Pastor.

ARTICLE VII - Meetings

- Section 1. The Pastor alone has the right to convoke the Parish Finance Council according to the necessities of the apostolate and to preside over it. Parish Finance Council members **may not** meet without the Pastor except in the case when the pastor has been called away for an emergency situation at the time of the established meeting and gives his specific permission for the Council to meet. Discussion can take place at such meetings, but no voting will take place. The Chairperson will inform the Pastor of discussion recommendations at the earliest time possible following a rare meeting without the Pastor present.

- Section 2. The Parish Finance Council must be convoked no less than four (4) times per year/quarterly and in accordance with the frequency specified in the Bylaws.
- Section 3. The Pastor alone may make public what has been done in the Parish Finance Council meetings.

ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

- Section 1. If a Council member has a proposed amendment, a written proposal for amendment should be submitted to the Bishop prior to a Council vote to determine whether it is even appropriate to be considered.
- Section 2. Notification of proposed amendments to these Articles must be made to the membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which they will be voted upon.
- Section 3. Proposed amendments become effective only after approval by a two-thirds majority vote of those present at a meeting and approval of the Diocesan Bishop.

Approved on May 15, 2025, at the Bishop's Office, Superior.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James P. Powers", preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Rev. James P. Powers
Bishop of Superior

BYLAWS of the
FINANCE COUNCIL of _____

Special Note: In cases where the Bishop has appointed other pastoral leadership, due to a shortage of priests and which is allowed by Canon 517.2, Parish Life Coordinators (Permanent Deacons) and Parish Directors (Lay woman or Man) will act in this capacity of the “Pastor”, except for those rights and responsibilities specifically reserved for the Canonical Pastor.

ARTICLE I - Membership

- Section 1. There shall be no fewer than three (3), nor more than five (5) members.
- Section 2. After making careful inquiry to determine who among the faithful are best qualified for appointment, the Pastor shall appoint the members of the Parish Finance Council.
- Section 3. One (1) Parish Trustee who is not a member of the Parish Pastoral Council shall be an ex officio member of the Parish Finance Council. This member must be the Treasurer of the Corporate Board.
- Section 4. The names of candidates under consideration for appointment to the Council shall be kept in confidence to preclude questions being raised publicly concerning the good character or competence in temporal matters of those not appointed.
- Section 5. All close relatives of the Pastor are excluded from appointment to the Parish Finance Council.
- Section 6. The names of the members of the Parish Finance Council shall be made known to all parishioners.
- Section 7. Parochial Vicars and Sacramental Priests are also encouraged to attend these meetings but do not have a vote.

ARTICLE II - Terms of Appointment

- Section 1. The members of the Parish Finance Council shall be appointed to a four (4) year term.
- Section 2. Members may not serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms. Former members who have served two (2) consecutive terms shall be eligible for reappointment after the passage of one (1) year from the date they last served as members. Members completing a partial or unexpired term shall be eligible to serve two (2) consecutive terms after the partial or unexpired term.

- Section 3. In the case of a vacant pastorate, the members under the previous Pastor shall assist the Dean and the Diocesan Bishop during the interim.
- Section 4. The Pastor, after consultation with the remaining members, shall fill any vacancy on the Parish Finance Council as soon as possible, but not to exceed a three (3) month vacancy.
- Section 5. Members selected shall assume membership at the meeting immediately following their selection.

ARTICLE III - Officers

- Section 1. The Pastor shall be the President. (cf. Canon 532)
- Section 2. The President shall appoint or arrange for the election of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.
- Section 3. Officers other than the President shall hold office for no longer than two (2) successive one (1) year terms.

ARTICLE IV - Duties of Officers

- Section 1. The President shall:
- A) Preside over all meetings and ensures that the Secretary receives an approved agenda for distribution to all members at least two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled meeting.
 - B) With the assistance of the chair, prepare the agenda for the meetings.
 - C) Facilitate appropriate communication between the Parish Finance Council and the Parish Pastoral Council.
 - D) Assures that all financial diocesan wide policies and procedures are followed.
- Section 2. The Chair shall:
- A) Conduct all meetings.
 - B) Assist the President in the preparation of the agenda.
 - C) Appoint chairs and members to various standing and ad hoc committees.
 - D) Assure that all positions on the Council and its committees are filled and function in accordance with the bylaws.
 - E) Be an ex officio member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Section 3. F) Perform all other duties assigned by the President.
The Vice-chair shall:

A) Assume the responsibility of the chair in the chair's absence.

B) Perform all other duties assigned by the chair.

Section 4. The Secretary shall:

A) Notify the members of all meetings and their agenda, at least two (2) weeks and not more than four (4) weeks prior to the meetings, except in the case of special meetings.

B) Be responsible for recording the minutes of the meetings and mailing them to the members within two (2) weeks after the meeting. A recording secretary may be employed to record the minutes.

C) Perform all other duties assigned by the chair.

ARTICLE V - Committees

Section 1. Standing and/or ad hoc committees shall be established by the Council as needed with the approval of the Pastor (cf. Principle VII, Notes: A, B).

Section 2. Standing committees shall be appointed by the chair in consultation with the Pastor and shall include at least one Parish Finance Council member. Committee members shall be appointed to a two (2) year term by the chair and may be reappointed.

Section 3. Standing committees may form sub-committees, whose members need not be members of the Parish Finance Council.

Section 4. The following norms will govern ad hoc committees:

A) The chair may establish ad hoc committees as needed.

B) Members need not be members of the Parish Finance Council.

C) Committees will cease existence automatically within one (1) year unless determined otherwise by the chair.

Section 5. The chair of the Council shall appoint the chairs of all committees.

Section 6. All committee chairs are responsible for calling meetings when needed and for recording the minutes of each meeting. Committee reports should be provided to

the full council in written, oral or other means of reporting determined by the Pastor.

ARTICLE VI - Meetings

- Section 1. The Council must be convoked no less than four (4) times per year/quarterly. The Pastor together with the Council may schedule additional regular meetings.
- Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the Pastor.
- Section 3. All meetings shall be held at a place designated by the Pastor.

ARTICLE VII - Procedures

- Section 1. To facilitate consensus, Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings except in those matters specified otherwise in the Constitution or Bylaws.
- Section 2. A quorum consists of a simple majority of the members for all meetings.

ARTICLE VII - Amendments

- Section 1. If a Council member has a proposed amendment, a written proposal for amendment should be submitted to the Bishop prior to a Council vote to determine whether it is even appropriate to be considered.
- Section 2. Notification of proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be made to the members at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which they will be voted upon.
- Section 3. Proposed amendments become effective only after approval by a majority vote of those present at a meeting and approval of the Diocesan Bishop.

Approved on May 15, 2025, at the Bishop's Office, Superior

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James P. Powers", preceded by a small cross symbol.

Most Rev. James P. Powers
Bishop of Superior

ADDENDUM - COMBINED CLUSTER PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEETINGS

To address the challenge of maximizing resources in your cluster of parishes, you may elect to hold Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council meetings. Depending on the size of parishes in your cluster, you may also choose to have combined meetings of the smaller parishes and individual meetings with larger parishes, particularly if they have a school.

In the spirit of good stewardship and mission this structure allows for streamlined operations and resource sharing while maintaining the autonomy and individuality of each parish. It reduces the administrative burden on the pastor, ensures accountability, and maximizes the talents of the few quality volunteers and staff you may have.

1. Purpose and Scope

- The Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council Meetings are established to optimize the use of resources, streamline communication, and provide collaborative financial oversight for the Cluster of Catholic Parishes. This initiative aligns with Canon 537 of the Code of Canon Law, which mandates that each parish must have a Parish Finance Council to assist the pastor in the administration of parish goods while ensuring that the specific needs of each parish are met in a cluster setting.

2. Canonical and Diocesan Compliance

- The Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council meetings will comply with the Code of Canon Law and all diocesan policies on the administration of temporal goods. Each parish will retain its individual Parish Finance Council as required by Canon Law, but these councils may meet jointly to discuss shared concerns, while still addressing parish-specific needs as necessary.

3. Membership

- Membership: Members should be appointed and approved in accordance with the general Articles and Bylaws for Parish Finance Councils.
- Representation: Each parish in the cluster will appoint at least two (2) representatives at large, plus the Treasurer of each Corporate Board (no less than three (3) per parish total) to the Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council. These representatives should have financial expertise and a deep understanding of the parish's needs. The pastor may also consider selecting a cluster-wide Financial Coordinator, if approved by the diocese, to assist in managing joint efforts.
- Pastor's role: The pastor will serve as the President of the combined council with the authority to consult the members on the use of parish resources, as per diocesan norms.
- Council Chair: A lay chairperson should be appointed from among the representatives to coordinate meetings and agendas. The chairperson's position should be rotated annually.

4. Meeting Frequency and Structure

- Meeting Schedule: Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council meetings will be held quarterly/four (4) times per year, or more frequently if the pastor deems it necessary, to discuss shared financial concerns and major decisions regarding the cluster.
- Agenda: The agenda will consist of two parts:
 - Common Agenda: Issues related to shared resources, joint initiatives, and cluster-wide events or needs.
 - Parish-Specific Matters: Each representative may bring up parish-specific concerns for discussion at the discretion of the pastor, ensuring no parish's interests are neglected.
- Minutes and Reporting: Meeting minutes will be prepared and circulated among all parish finance councils and the diocese as required. Transparency will be maintained through regular financial reporting to parishioners of each parish.

5. Areas of Collaboration

- Joint Budgeting for Cluster Initiatives: Each parish will contribute a proportionate amount to shared cluster events or programs, such as religious education, liturgical celebrations, youth programs, and outreach efforts.
- Common Contracts: Where applicable, contracts for maintenance, utilities, or other services may be negotiated collectively to obtain better rates, with costs allocated fairly among the parishes.
- Shared Resources: Parish resources such as priests' expenses, administrative personnel, accounting services, or volunteers should be pooled to benefit the entire cluster. This can reduce duplication and increase efficiency.

6. Decision-Making Process

- Decisions concerning matters of shared resources will be made by the pastor after consultation with the Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council members.
- Consultation with Individual Councils: To benefit from cluster-wide collaboration, significant financial projects or expenses of an individual parish will be brought to the attention of the entire combined parish finance council. To ensure the individual parish's identity and autonomy, the final decisions will be made by the pastor after consultation with the Parish Finance Council members of that individual parish.

7. Transparency and Accountability

- Financial Reports: Each parish's finances will remain separate, but regular reports on joint activities will be provided to the entire cluster. The President and lay chairperson will ensure that all financial activities are transparent to both the parish Finance Councils and the diocesan authorities.
- A detailed financial report is to be published annually.
- Audits: Periodic audits, as required by the diocese, will be conducted to ensure compliance with diocesan and canon law financial management standards.

8. Communication with Parishioners

- Regular updates on the activities and decisions of the Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council will be communicated to parishioners through bulletins, newsletters, or parish meetings. This ensures that parishioners remain informed and engaged in the financial health of both their individual parish and the cluster as a whole.

9. Adaptability

- This Addendum is subject to review and amendment based on the evolving needs of the cluster and any directives from the diocese. The Combined Cluster Parish Finance Council will re-evaluate the efficiency of the joint meetings and adjust as necessary to better serve the pastor and parishioners. Any modification not expressly communicated from the diocese, will need to be submitted in writing and approved by the Bishop.

10. Diocesan Approval

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-