

Parish Pastoral Council Election Information Kit Annual General Meeting (AGM) - May 28, 2019

Greetings and thank you.

As we move away from Christendom and into a new reality of our secular age, we see the effects in both our families and the wider culture. There seems to be general decline in mainline churches attendance, an increased pressure to think and move in a secular paradigm, and an aging parish demographic with no clear formula to attract the next generation of believers. The Catholic faith as a whole and our parish at Annunciation has not been exempt from this trend.

But now for the good news: I truly believe Annunciation of the Lord is positioned to be an exception to the trend as we have foundational resources of both material and personnel, we have committed clergy and are connected to a wider movement of renewal with the Companions of the Cross and there is a history of charismatic stewardship to help the congregation to see the value in sacrificial giving.

Working together as a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) team, renewal is possible under the power of the Holy Spirit. We can be the exception and we can be exceptional but timing is significant to this project. We need to make this cultural change while we still have the current momentum and it is important to take advantage of the present parish leadership as it is both unified and engaged in the process of renewal.

It may sound ambitious given our current reality but there is also a wider influence possible as we take the lead in parish renewal within the archdiocese. Simply put, without a vision the people perish. (Proverbs 29:18)

Thank you for considering the challenge of serving with the Parish Pastoral Council and thank you for the courage to be the change you want to see.

Pax,

Fr Rob Arsenault CC

Nomination and Election Process

The nomination and election process proceeds in three phases:

1. Phase one: Invitation for Nominations via the Sunday Bulletin - **April 27 & 28 and May 4 & 5, 2019** and via the website from **April 25 to May 13, 2019**.
 - a. Parish Pastoral Council Election Information Kit provided to potential candidates.
 - b. Proposal Forms (see pages 4 and 5) must be completed and submitted to the Nominating Committee no later than **May 14, 2019**.
2. Phase two: Review of proposed nominations by the Nominating Committee¹
 - a. Verify that nominees meet the eligibility criteria.
 - b. Meeting with nominees to answer questions and briefing prospective candidates.
 - c. Nominating Committee publishes all qualifying nominations at Sunday masses, in the Bulletin, and the Parish website by **May 25th and 26th, 2019**.
3. Phase three: Election or Nomination of Members: The slate of nominations will be placed before the AGM on **May 28th, 2019** by the Nomination Committee in the form of a motion to adopt the report of the Nominating Committee. Nominees will be called to make brief comments on their candidacy and their interest in serving on the PPC. Should the number of nominees exceed the required number of space available, an election by way of a ballot of the general membership in attendance will be held.

Eligibility Criteria for PPC Membership

For those discerning nomination as a candidate for the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) at Annunciation of the Lord Parish (AoLP), it is important to know that we have been working in recent months to re-emphasize PPC's advisory role to the pastor on matters of parish policy. Essentially, the changes introduced return the PPC to its role of advising the pastor, of "pastoral policies" that he is charged with under Cannon Law and on which he has a responsibility to seek their advice and discernment. The key difference from the past practice at AoLP is that implementation of plans and as well as the direction of operations will now be the purview of others in particular the Pastor's Leadership Team (PLT).

¹ Nominating Committee is chaired by the Pastor and comprises of at least one current member of PPC, one current member of the Pastor's Leadership Team (PLT), one ministry member and one person from the general parish membership.

Becoming a member of PPC offers a unique opportunity to make a significant contribution to the future direction of the Parish but it also comes with certain demands. Firstly, there are a few important general qualifications to meet:

- A Catholic in good standing with the Church.
- Attends (at least) weekly Sunday Mass (predominately at AoLP).
- Undertakes to represent the voice of parishioners on the council, not just a personal view/opinion.
- Faithful attendance to all PPC meetings during your term.

Secondly, members are required to make a conscious commitment to:

- Attend at least 6 PPC meetings per year including reading of background papers, reports and prayerful consideration of the issues facing the Parish.
- Becoming familiar with the Parish vision, mission, and plan as reflected in AoLP's Our Pastoral Strategy, the AoLP Church Survey, and the best practices of Catholic parishes.
- Have a visible presence at Sunday Masses as representative of the PPC as well as other parish events especially Parish Feast Day, Parish Picnic, AGM, and any other events requiring a PPC presence.
- Represent PPC through involvement in various parish activities as determined by the Pastor and PPC.

A PPC Candidate Proposal Form follows on the next page to facilitate any parish member wishing to suggest candidates for the consideration by the Nominating Committee.

Alternatively, any parish member can suggest someone whom they believe would make a good candidate directly to members of the Nominating Committee as follows:

Chair: Fr. Rob Arsenault

PPC Representative: Cristy Ombac-Orr

PLT: Alcide de Gagne

Ministry Representative: Sue Atkinson

At Large: Randy Orr

Annunciation PPC Candidate Proposal Form

Part 1: Nominator

I, _____, a parishioner in good standing do hereby
nominate
(name of nominator)

_____ as a candidate for election to the Parish Pastoral
Council.
(name of proposed candidate)

(signature of nominator) *(date)*

Part 2: Candidate

I, _____, a parishioner in good standing, agree to allowing
my name
(name of proposed candidate)

for consideration by the Nominating Committee, as a possible candidate for election to the Parish Pastoral Council:

To the best of your ability, please provide a brief summary of your background (including educational and employment) and your involvement in the Parish. If you require more space please attach another sheet.

1. Please indicate the number of years as a member of AoLP:

2. Ministries involved with at AoLP or elsewhere:

3. Parish Councils or Committees previously served on at AoLP or elsewhere: _____

4. Please identify which weekend mass usually attended:

5. Please identify any parish/community constituency you are comfortable with representing as a member of the PPC:

6. Please briefly describe the skills, values and experience that you bring as you serve on PPC:

(signature of proposed candidate)

(date)

Your Contact information: Phone: _____ Email: _____

For any questions about the nomination process, please contact Alcide de Gagne at alcidedegagne@gmail.com or Cristy Ombac-Orr at ombac@hotmail.com .