

**Pastoral Council Constitution
of
St. Agnes and St. William of York Parishes**

Mission Statement

“We are called to be stewards representing the Roman Catholic community of St. Agnes and St. William of York Parishes. On their behalf, we will strive to prayerfully discern the desire of the Holy Spirit and will advise our Pastor/Pastoral Administrator. We do this so that the community can continue to grow as disciples and share the Gospel to the Glory of God.”

Article I: Name

The name of the body shall be the “St. Agnes and St. William of York Pastoral Council,” hereinafter referred to as the “Council.”

Article II: Purpose

Section 1: The purposes of the Council shall be:

- To be a visible witness to all people of the message and service of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- To accept responsibility for advising the Pastor/Pastoral Administrator concerning the life and mission of the Church in the parishes;
- To act as an authentic representative voice of the People of God — laity, religious and clerical — to the Pastor/Pastoral Administrator;
- To provide an open and honest forum for communication and dialogue regarding parish affairs among the Pastor/Pastoral Administrator, associate pastor(s), permanent deacons, religious, the parish staff and the laity;
- To assist the Pastor/Pastoral Administrator in the administration of the parishes through recommendations and active cooperation;
- To encourage by all available means a vigorous and effective lay apostolate;
- To collaborate with other religious bodies and with civic, business, and professional organizations in working for the common good of the community;

- To participate by active cooperation in the total life and mission of the Church within the Archdiocese;

Article III. Membership

Membership consists of those who are ex officio and of registered parishioners who are elected or appointed as delineated in the bylaws.

Article IV. Officers

The officers of the Pastoral Council are: the Pastor/Pastoral Administrator, the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Secretary.

Article V. Executive Committee

The officers of the Pastoral Council constitute the executive committee.

Article VI. Meetings

Meetings are held regularly as specified in the bylaws.

Article VII. Committees

The required standing committees are defined in the bylaws. The Chair appoints ad hoc committees as needed.

Article VIII. Amendments

Because the constitution is a foundational document, any amendments to this constitution require a vote as delineated in the bylaws and approved as specified in the norms for Pastoral Councils.

A copy of the final document shall be placed in a permanent file with the Pastor/Pastoral Administrator, and all members of the Council shall be given an updated copy of the final version.

This Constitution is in agreement with the principles published by the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland.

Ratified by St. Agnes and St. William of York Pastoral Councils in a joint meeting on_____.

