

Some Criteria to assess Council effectiveness

Characteristics of Effective Pastoral Councils	Details	Varied ways to support and develop this characteristic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiritually grounded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • steeped in prayer • seeking greater knowledge • recognizing and drawing on the array of spiritual gifts among members and across the parish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings begin and end with prayer • Retreats/learning time for renewal and continuing spiritual growth • Resources provided for individual and group prayer...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiritual change/growth agents • Fostering growth in faith • Keepers of continuity AND willing to change and adapt as parish needs require • Flexible and responsive to emerging needs, changing realities • Able to draw in and support growth of new leaders • Willing to delegate and respect differing perspectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members participate in leadership training programs • The Council provides parish-based leadership training programs, identifies, invites and encourages potential parish leaders to participate. •
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively Engaged: Listening, reflecting – communicating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking spiritual gifts in all • Know demographics of parish community • Being open and welcoming to all • Inviting feedback to assess needs, impact and successes – two way communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly gathering information and insights from across the parish community • Regularly scheduled ‘updates/needs/ goals/successes’ conversations with ministries, ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountable for growing the spiritual life of the parish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly assess council and program effectiveness • Conduct information gathering sessions, surveys, forums • Initiate ministry reflections to provide data for tracking progress toward ministry and parish goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets with ministry groups for periodic assessment and evaluation of goals and outcomes • Encourages ministry groups to provide feedback to the council on the council’s effectiveness • Makes the results of assessment and evaluation meetings available to parishioners