

St. Walter Parish Pastoral Council 2008 New Member Interest Form

St. Walter Parish Pastoral Council is looking to fill the positions of three members for a three-year term. Parish members interested in serving on the Pastoral Council are invited to submit an application by Monday, May 19, 2008. General information about the Pastoral Council and Member Qualifications are below. The application form follows.

Pastoral Council Mission

In concert with the pastoral staff, the St. Walter Parish Pastoral Council works to uphold the vision of the parish in its various activities and ministries. In a spirit of prayerful reflection and consensus-based communication, the Council plans, supports and evaluates the work of the parish.

Purposes of the Pastoral Council

- To discern, formulate and regularly review the mission of St. Walter Parish by:
 - Evaluating the parish growth and development needs in terms of the Gospel and the local and universal Church.
 - Reviewing the needs, hopes and expectations of our parish community and those we serve.
- To guide, advise and assist the parish as it lives out its mission by:
 - Strengthening and encouraging ministries to fulfill the mission of the parish.
 - Enhancing the responsibility and involvement of the laity in the life of the parish
 - Encouraging the growth of positive working relationships and fostering communication among all segments of the parish community.
- To determine and set priorities for the parish by maintaining a strategic pastoral plan through:
 - Conducting appropriate parish-wide assessments, as necessary
 - Setting parish-wide goals
 - Determining structure & establishing core teams
 - Evaluating the findings, vision and recommendations of each core team
 - Communicating the action plans and supporting their implementation in all parish committees
- To advise the pastor for the good of the parish especially:
 - If there are large finances involved;
 - If the image of the parish is at stake;
 - If tradition of the parish is going to be changed;
 - To ensure an action or project is consistent with parish-wide goals;
 - During situations of potential divisiveness arise in the parish.

Qualifications of Members

Parish Pastoral Council members must:

- Be fully-initiated (having received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation), active Catholics
- Be registered members of parish for two years
- Represent the vision of the whole parish and the mission of the Council. (Sees self as a parish advocate and not a delegate or constitute to an individual cause.)
- Not be a staff member or employee of the church or school
- Not serve on the council simultaneously with another member of his/her immediate family
- Appreciates and enjoys planning and encouraging others to get involved.

Responsibility of Members

- Meeting Attendance: Because the Pastoral Council does its work at monthly meetings, it is important for members to be present at meetings.
- Attendance at special events: Special events are times when the parish gathers to celebrate, communicate and/or make decisions. Council members are encouraged to attend as many as they are able.
- Parish committee and group liaison work: Council members will volunteer to serve as a liaison to at least one major parish ministry or committee. They do this to demonstrate support and facilitate communication.

**St. Walter Parish Pastoral Council
New Member Interest Form**

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	E-Mail:

1. Have you been a registered member of St. Walter Church for at least two years?
 Yes No

2. Are you a practicing Catholic and Confirmed?
 Yes No

3. Are you willing to offer a three-year commitment of regular, monthly meetings to serve on the council as well as a liaison to an important parish task force?
 Yes No

4. Are you committed to represent the vision of the whole parish and the mission of the Council?
 Yes No

5. Please list any previous or present involvement in parish activities (e.g. lector, minister of Communion, catechist, volunteer at parish events, retreats, etc.)

6. Why would you like to serve on the Pastoral Council?

7. What skills/traits would you bring to Parish Council?

Thank you for your interest in the Parish Pastoral Advisory Council. If you would like to apply for Parish Council, please complete the above form and return to Pastoral Council Discernment; St. Walter Church; 130 W. Pine Street; Roselle, IL 60172 or emailed to Fr. John Regan at frjohnregan@sbcglobal.net or Jerry Smiley at jsmiley@ameritech.net.

Application Deadline is Monday, May 19, 2008

A personal meeting with the Discernment Committee will occur later in May.