

## Pastoral Council Report to the Parish Community

In order to better serve our parish community, the St. Robert of Newminster Pastoral Council desires to improve the visibility of our activities, increase understanding of the council's role, and expand our communications. One of the ways we are seeking to accomplish these goals is by having council members available near the Welcome Desk and baptismal font in the narthex after weekend Masses approximately once per quarter. We encourage you to talk with us to share your desires for the parish, your spiritual needs, and any concerns you may have. We can then bring these topics to the attention of our pastor, Fr. Tony, at our next meeting. **If you're not able to talk with us after Mass, please email Council Chair Patrick Smiggen at [msu92und96@yahoo.com](mailto:msu92und96@yahoo.com).**

The other way we wish to accomplish the above-stated goals is through an annual report to the parish, the first of which follows:

### What is the purpose of the parish Pastoral Council?

The Pastoral Council acts as an advisory body to the pastor of St. Robert of Newminster Parish. The council consists of parishioners called together by the pastor, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to provide him with guidance, opinion, and counsel. Council members listen to parishioners and bring parishioners' desires and concerns to meetings, where they are shared with the pastor to inform his decisions about the parish. The council charter is one of vision, leadership, and communication – determining the pastoral and spiritual needs of the parish. The council meets ten times a year, generally on the first Tuesday of the month. Current council members are Patrick Smiggen (chair), Ryan Flaherty, Paula Benjamin, Adam Chaignot, Sue Perry, Mick Hamberg, Mary Mapes, Katie Milanowski and Yvonne Prouty.

### How are Pastoral Council members selected?

Generally, parishioners may be nominated to the Pastoral Council by themselves or other parishioners. After confirming their willingness to serve on the council, and answering any questions they have, these prospective council members enter the selection process. That process may vary, depending on the number of candidates needed to replenish and/or refresh the council's membership. One example of the selection process is to place the candidates' names into a "hat," pray that the Holy Spirit guides the selection, and then pull names for the number of candidates needed.

### What is/has the Pastoral Council been working on?

- Updating the Pastoral Council page on the parish website
- Updating the Pastoral Council Charter
- Discovering ways to better execute our role
- Brought a Eucharistic Miracle Panel Exhibit to SRN as part of the Eucharistic Revival
- Helped with updating the parish directory
- Bringing the sanctuary bells back to Mass was initiated by a council member
- Exploring how to revive the greeter ministry, including the involvement of various ministries during Lent

- Jubilee Year of Hope display at the back of church
- Discussed and executed an alternative seating arrangement for confession that would aid in organization and handicap accessibility

If you, or a parishioner you know, is interested in serving on the Pastoral Council in the future, please contact the parish office or speak with a current member of the Pastoral Council. A list of current members is available on our parish website at <https://strobertchurch.org/ministry/pastoral-council/>.

**Members of the Pastoral Council will be present in the narthex after all Masses this weekend. Stop by to meet and talk with them, share your thoughts and ideas!**

## Holiday potluck with the O.W.L.S. Dec. 12



The O.W.L.S. invite you for this festive celebration on Dec. 12, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to share and a Christmas card or two to prepare for nursing home residents.

RSVP to Lu Paletta, [lupaletta@gmail.com](mailto:lupaletta@gmail.com)

## Consider joining the SRN Safety Team Ministry

The last Safety Team Informational Session this calendar year will be Dec. 7 at 6:00 p.m. in Marian Hall. Our initial safety team is now present on Wednesday mornings. Once we have a sufficient number of volunteers, the goal is to expand coverage to weekend Masses.



To learn more and register, scan the QR code, or visit <https://forms.gle/SFwECcfMeHsATrhd9>

## Advent at SRN

For Mass, adoration and confession schedules, special events and seasonal resources for Advent and Christmas, visit our Advent at SRN web page: <https://strobertchurch.org/about-us/advent-at-srn/>

