



## ST. HELEN PASTORAL COUNCIL DISCERNMENT MEETING

October 13 9:00 AM– 11:00 PM BRADEN CENTER

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Our mission as St. Helen Pastoral Council is to improve pastoral services and offer the opportunity to each parishioner to grow and participate in parish life, thereby enhancing the good of St. Helen's community as a whole.

**PURPOSE:** The role of the Pastoral Council is to:

1. Help the Pastor identify pastoral needs in the Parish.
2. Help the Pastor plan pastoral programs and improve parish services.
3. Coordinate with the other ministries to develop any additional programs and/or services that may be in the best interest of furthering the Parish's community spirit.

### **REQUIREMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

1. Must be in full communion with the Catholic Church.
2. Must be registered in the Parish for two years.
3. Must have demonstrated a commitment to the Parish community.
4. Must commit themselves to spiritual growth.
5. Must commit themselves to skills development as part of the Christian leadership process.
6. Must be willing to commit the necessary time and energy to offer executive consultation.

Parishioners interested in serving the Parish in this capacity may contact present Pastoral Council members or Fr. Jim for more information.

**POTENTIAL PASTORAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES:** The Pastoral Council is a visioning body for the parish. Parish administration and parish staff tend to the day-to-day ministries of the parish along with the various ministries themselves. Therefore, the focus of the Council is long-range pastoral planning. It is consultative to the Pastor. Seven elements form the essence of parish life and the concern of the Pastoral Council. They are evangelization, worship, word, community, service, stewardship, and leadership. It is the duty of the members of the Pastoral Council to make sure that none of these seven elements are inadvertently overlooked. They ensure that existing parish programs, organizations and committees are continually evaluated and adjusted to respond to the vision of the Parish. They identify all the resources that the Parish has and needs. The Pastoral Council's function is to make things happen instead of merely letting things happen. Mission and goals of the Parish are to be connected to the mission and goals of the Archdiocese. Most importantly, the Pastoral Council in its planning involves the whole Parish on a regular basis in the continuing search for a more effective response to God's will. Parish pastoral planning by the Council provides a rootedness for the Parish grounded in the mission of Christ and it ensures a wholeness, not a fragmentation in Parish life. In summary, the Pastoral Council is to promulgate the St. Helen Mission statement. Feel free to seek out a current Pastoral Council member and ask about their experience. Find out what great things the Council has done and what challenges lie ahead! **PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SERVING IN THIS REWARDING MINISTRY!**