

Dear Parishioners,

Over the next several weeks, the parish is going to hold nominations for additional membership on the Parish Pastoral Council. The council is a visioning and planning body of parishioners who foster full participation of the entire parish in the life and mission of the church as lived out in Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. In consultation with the Pastor, the Parish Pastoral Council actively listens to and identifies the needs and concerns of the people and reviews the parish pastoral plan to respond to these needs. The Council also seeks to implement the plan by seeking the involvement of parishioners.

The Pastoral Council's functions are:

- To serve a three year term. The council typically meets monthly for two hours
- To serve as a forum for open and free dialogue on matters of pastoral concern
- To seek out diverse backgrounds, viewpoints, and needs of all the people of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- To maintain and adjust the Mission Statement that will embrace the total life and mission of the Parish
- To pray for and recommend to the Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, current and future pastoral needs
- To establish clear and concise practical goals and objectives based on the Mission Statement and evaluate effectiveness in the areas of: divine worship and prayer, teaching and preaching the Word of God, communal witness to the gospel, and charity and service to all
- To serve as a visible sign of unity for Our Lady of Guadalupe
- To accept other responsibilities as assigned by the Pastor.

During this election cycle, we will be electing five new members. We are in need of Parishioners who have these qualities:

- a desire for spiritual growth in themselves and the Parish
- an enthusiasm about the future direction of the Parish
- a willingness to listen, to speak honestly and to work toward consensus
- the ability to inspire and empower others to delegate
- flexibility and openness with people and ideas

Nominations will take place over the next few weeks, and will conclude on October 21st. Nomination forms will be included in bulletins over the next four weeks. Nomination forms will be collected after Mass, can be submitted to the parish office, or can be emailed to ppc@olguadalupe.org.

Those identified as nominees will be invited to attend an information night on November 9th. At this session all nominees will learn about the role of the Parish Pastoral Council. After this evening, all will be asked to reflect and pray on this information and discern whether or not they feel called to this ministry of service and leadership. Elections will be held starting November 27th, concluding on December 14th.

Ever grateful for your willingness to serve our Parish,

Monsignor Joseph P. Gentili