

§1500 THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

§1501 IN GENERAL

1501.1. Policy. There shall be a Diocesan Pastoral Council in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, which is convened and presided over by the Bishop. (Canon 514).

1501.2. Policy. The membership of the Diocesan Pastoral council shall constitute at least one and no more than two members of each deanery.

1501.3. Policy. The Diocesan Pastoral Council shall have and maintain a Governance Document.

Note

As of the effective date of these policies and procedures, the current Governance Document was created (September 2015)

1501.4. Policy. The Governance Document of the Diocesan Pastoral Council may be amended by the affirmative decision of at least two-thirds of the voting members present at a general meeting and submitted to the Bishop for approval.

Procedures

To allow sufficient time for reflection, the proposed amendment should be distributed at least one general meeting prior to the meeting at which the decision will be made.

§1502 MISSION

Commentary

“A pastoral council possesses only a consultative vote. It belongs to the diocesan bishop alone to convoke it according to the needs of the apostolate and to preside over it; it also belongs to him alone to make public what has been done in the council (Canon 514 §1).”

1502.1. Policy. The mission of the Diocesan Pastoral Council shall be:

- (1) to listen to and address major issues of pastoral concerns raised by our brothers and sisters in the Diocese;
- (2) to reflect prayerfully on the pastoral direction of the Diocese;
- (3) to recommend pastoral priorities toward shaping the long-range vision of the Diocese;
- (4) to act collegially with other groups in the Diocese who are engaged in similar tasks.