



The Church of Saint Michael the Archangel

November 30, 2015

Dear Parishioners of Saint Michael's,

The Code of Canon Law provides for the formation of Parish Pastoral Councils in Canon 536 #1:

"In every parish of the diocese, a Pastoral Council shall be established, if the diocesan Bishop, after consulting with the Council of Presbyters so decides. The pastor presides over the Pastoral Council. The Pastoral Council is composed of members of the congregation together with those of the parish staff who have pastoral care by reason of their office. The Pastoral Council assists in promoting pastoral action in the parish."

When I arrived 10 plus years ago, we had one Council – advising me on financial and legal matters and on the pastoral ministry of the parish. Due to the work load of the building project, I felt we should, as most parishes do, divide that work between two Councils – one pastoral and the other administrative. We did not have a Pastoral Plan at that point. Soon the vagaries of our building project became preoccupying of my and the Council's time. So we have not had a Parish Pastoral Plan until now. The Pastoral Council took this on during the 2014-2015 year working collaboratively to define our mission statement and align the goals for Saint Michael's to our "Participation in the Liturgy and Celebration of the Sacraments, Faith Formation, Service to the Poor and Campus Ministry."

Due to our financial situation and the high cost of printing color copies for each of you, I ask that you find it on our parish website: www.stmichaelportland.org. Even though we are in transition, it is more important than ever to continue building community and enhancing our parish life while restoring our church.

Please take a moment to read our Pastoral Plan as part of your part in being a responsible member of our wonderful parish. We will continue to reflect and communicate the work in this plan and your assistance and prayers will help us achieve our goals.

Sincerely in Christ,

(Rev.) James L. Mayo
Pastor