ST. MICHAEL POPLAR SPRINGS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHARTER

Preamble: The people of God worshiping at St. Michael Catholic Church live vibrant lives dedicated to the Gospel through Mass attendance, prayer, service, financial stewardship and sharing the Faith.

# ARTICLE I

The name of this body shall be the St. Michael Pastoral Council, hereinafter referred to as “the Council.”

# ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

1. Acting in faithful witness to the Gospel, the Pastoral Council provides the pastor with recommendations and insight into the spiritual and corporal needs of the parish. Living in faithful witness to the Gospel, members of the Pastoral Council labor collaboratively to support Mission areas that are channels of the Holy Spirit working in our midst.
2. Additionally, the Council:
   1. Helps develop the strategic direction of the parish
   2. Advises the pastor on ways to achieve the goals of the parish
   3. Supports parish staff and council committees

# ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

1. The Council is comprised of up to 12 pastor-appointed members. St. Michael Parish staff are not members but work closely with the Council.
2. The term of a member is three years. A member may serve up to two consecutive terms. A member may not serve three consecutive terms.

# ARTICLE IV: APPOINTMENTS

1. In March, the Pastor will invite the parish to nominate candidates to serve on the Council.
2. Appointments typically start in September. Nominees for the Council must be approved by the Pastor. New members take office at September’s Council meeting.
3. If a member vacates a position, the Council will recommend to the Pastor a replacement to be appointed for the duration of the term.

# ARTICLE V: STRUCTURE

1. The Presider serves as leader of the Council.  The Presider will meet in advance with the Pastor to establish the meeting agenda for the next meeting and preside over council meetings.
2. The Recording Secretary will record the minutes of council meetings and distribute them accordingly.
3. The Presider and Recording Secretary will be chosen through a discernment process by the Council.
4. Council members will support the parish core mission priorities and represent the members of the parish.
   1. Liturgy
   2. Welcome
   3. Encounter
   4. Accompaniment
   5. Sending
   6. Mission Support

# ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

1. The meetings of the Council are held monthly with the exception of July and August.
2. A Strategic Planning Meeting is held annually, typically in January.
3. Council recommendations are reached by consensus. Alternative viewpoints are included in recommendations for consideration by the pastor and pastoral staff.
4. All meetings are open to the parish unless otherwise specified.