

Prayer for Pastoral Council Meeting

(To begin, be silent and still for a moment.)

Make the Sign of the Cross.

LEADER: We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.
If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.
If it is serving, let him serve;
if it is teaching, let him teach;
if it is encouraging, let him encourage;
if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously;
if it is leadership, let him govern diligently;
if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

(Romans 12:6-8)



(Short pause)

ALL: Lord, inspire us today with the qualities of good counsel.
Give us insight to make wise decisions,
integrity to face the truth,
courage to make difficult choices and
compassion for the needs of others.
Make us a model of justice and honor for the world
and let us never forget that our job is to serve both You and others.
May we receive into our arms the light of your revelation.

RIGHT: Spirit of God,
inspire this council
to help bring the Kingdom
to all our parish.

ALL: May we receive into our arms
the light of your revelation
for the good of our parish.

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LEFT: Spirit of God,
help us to remove
all that prevents our parish
from experiencing your touch.

ALL: May we receive into our arms
the light of your revelation
for the good of our parish.

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RIGHT: Spirit of God,
enlighten our witness for our parish
in our meetings.

ALL: May we receive into our arms
the light of your revelation
for the good of our parish. →

LEFT: Spirit of God,
let our witness for our parish
be cause for the rejoicing of many.

ALL: May we receive into our arms
the light of your revelation
for the good of our parish.

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RIGHT: Spirit of God,
let our witness for our parish
be a sign to reveal
the hearts of many.

ALL: May we receive into our arms
the light of your revelation
for the good of our parish.

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LEFT: Spirit of God,
we await the consolation of seeing the
well-being of all in our parish. **ALL:**
May we receive into our arms the light
of your revelation
for the good of our parish.

(Expanded from the Prayer of Simeon)

(more, next page)

PETITIONS:

Pause now for a minute.

*Reflect on what you would ask the Lord **to grant to this council.***

If you like, say your petition out loud, ending with: "Let us pray to the Lord."

All respond: "Lord, hear our prayer."

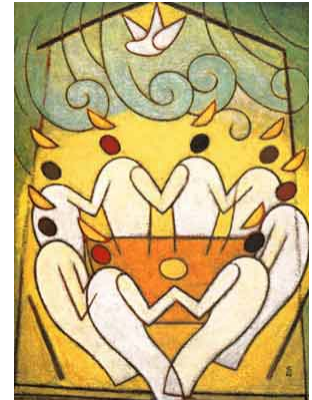
LEADER: Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? ...We hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "...let me explain this to you.... These people are not drunk, as you suppose. No, this is what was spoken of by the prophet Joel:

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.
Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.
I will show wonders in the heavens
and on the earth....
And everyone who calls
on the name of the LORD will be saved....

(Acts 2:5-21)



(Short pause.)

ALL: Christ, as a light, illumine and guide me!

Christ, as a shield, o'ershadow and cover me.

Christ, be under me! Christ, be over me.

Christ, be beside me on my left hand and right.

Christ, be before me, behind me, about me.

Christ, this day be within and without me.

Christ, the lowly and the meek.

Christ, the all powerful, be in the heart of each to whom I speak.

In the mouth of each who speaks to me.

In all who draw near to me, or see me, or hear me.

Amen.

(Attributed to St. Patrick)