

REFERENCES

1. Sirach 21:13
2. Sirach 11:4
3. Proverbs 11:14
4. Proverbs 15:22
5. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, Chapter IV, paragraph 37, "By reason of the knowledge, competence or pre-eminence which they have, the laity are empowered - indeed sometimes obliged - to manifest their opinion of those things which pertain to the good of the Church."
6. Code of Canon Law, Canon 519, "The pastor is the proper shepherd of the parish entrusted to him, exercising pastoral care in the community entrusted to him under the authority of the diocesan bishop in whose ministry of Christ he has been called to share."
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 - a) Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, Chapter IV, paragraph 37, "By reason of the knowledge, competence or pre-eminence which they have, the laity are empowered - indeed sometimes obliged - to manifest their opinion on those things which pertain to the good of the Church. If the occasion should arise this should be done through the institutions established by the Church for that purpose..."
 - b) Code of Canon Law, Canon 536, "After the diocesan bishop has listened to the presbyteral council and if he judges it opportune, a pastoral council is to be established in each parish; the pastor presides over it, and through it the Christian faithful, along with those who share in the pastoral care of the parish in virtue of their office give their help in fostering pastoral activity.

"The pastoral council possesses a consultative vote only and is governed by norms determined by the diocesan bishop."
 - c) Code of Canon Law, Canon 537, "Each parish is to have a finance council which is regulated by universal law as well as by norms issued by the diocesan bishop; in this council the Christian faithful, selected according to the same norms, aid the pastor in the administration of parish goods with due regard for the prescription of Canon 532."
8. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, Chapter 11, The People of God.
9. Code of Canon Law, Canon 127, "...although in no way obliged to accede to their recommendation, even if it be unanimous, nevertheless the superior should not act contrary to it, especially when there is a consensus unless there be a reason which in the superior's judgement, is overriding."
10. Code of Canon Law, Canon 536.
11. The pastor presides at council meetings in much the same way he presides at liturgy - he is present and participates in the activity, but he does not perform every function. the pastor's presidential role at council meetings does not preclude a council member serving as chairperson. In fact, it is preferable that the pastor be free of those responsibilities.

12. The word "pastoral" refers to the activities of a "pastor". In the following two canons, the activities of a pastor are clearly stated.

Code of Canon Law, Canon 528, "The pastor is obliged to see to it that the word of God in its entirety is announced to those living in the parish; for this reason he is to see to it that the lay Christian faithful are instructed in the truths of the faith, especially through the homily which is to be given on Sundays and holy days of obligation and through the catechetical formation which he is to give; he is to foster works by which the spirit of the gospel, including issues involving social justice, is promoted; he is to take special care for the Catholic education of children and of young adults; he is to make every effort with the aid of the Christian faithful, to bring the gospel message also to those who have ceased practicing their religion or who do not profess the true faith.

The pastor is to see to it that the Most Holy Eucharist is the center of the parish assembly of the faithful; he is to work to see to it that the Christian faithful are nourished through a devout celebration of the sacraments and especially that they frequently approach the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and the sacrament of penance; he is likewise to endeavor that they are brought to the practice of family prayer as well as to a knowing and active participation in the sacred liturgy, which the pastor must supervise in his parish under the authority of the diocesan bishop, being vigilant lest any abuses creep in."

Code of Canon Law, Canon 529, "in order to fulfill his office in earnest the pastor should strive to come to know the faithful who have been entrusted to his care; therefore he is to visit families, sharing the cares, worries, and especially the griefs of the faithful, strengthening them in the Lord, and correcting them prudently if they are wanting in certain areas; with a generous love he is to help the sick, particularly those close to death, refreshing them solicitously with the sacraments and commending their souls to God; he is to make a special effort to seek out the poor, the afflicted, the lonely, those exiled from their own land, and similarly those weighed down with special difficulties; he is also to labor diligently so that spouses and parents are supported in fulfilling their proper duties, and he is to foster growth in the Christian life within the family.

The pastor is to acknowledge and promote the proper role which the lay members of the Christian faithful have in the Church's mission by fostering their associations for religious purposes; he is to cooperate with his own bishop and with the presbyterate of the diocese in working hard so that the faithful be concerned for parochial communion and that they realize that they are members both of the diocese and of the universal Church and participate in and support efforts to promote such communion."

- 13: Code of Canon, Canon 545, "A parochial vicar or several of them can be associated with the pastor whenever it is necessary or suitable for duly implementing the pastoral care of the parish; parochial vicars are priests who render their services in pastoral ministry as co-workers with the pastor in common counsel and endeavor with him and also under his authority.

A parochial vicar can be assigned to assist in fulfilling the entire pastoral ministry on behalf of an entire parish, a definite part of a parish or a certain group of the Christian faithful of the parish; he can also be assigned to assist in fulfilling a certain type of ministry in different parishes concurrently."