

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH CONSTITUTION**

ARTICLE I – NAME AND ADDRESS

The organization shall be known as the Parish Pastoral Council (Council) of St. Nicholas Church. The offices of the Council shall be located at 712 Little Neck Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452-5807.

ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. The membership of the Council shall consist of :

- A. The Pastor, Parochial Vicar, and the Deacon.
- B. Six (6) At-large members to be elected by ~~the entire registered adult membership of the Parish~~ the Council.
- C. The Chairpersons of the Standing Committees. As listed in Article VIII.
- D. All ministerial parish staff members.
- E. To ensure a maximum of diverse representation, the Executive Committee may appoint additional members , not to exceed two (2).

Section 4. Each February the Chairperson shall request applications and resumes from the registered adult membership of the Parish to fill three (3) At-Large Council vacancies ~~nominations for three (3) At-Large Council vacancies~~ and appoint an Election Committee of three Council members who shall oversee the entire election process. The candidates' applications and resumes shall be reviewed by the Election Committee who shall then choose the candidates to be interviewed. The Election Committee shall then refer recommended candidates for election by the Council no later than the first week of May prior to the Council's regularly scheduled May meeting. The Election shall be held by written ballot or by motion. ~~The candidates with their resumes shall be presented to the general membership and election by written ballot shall be held by the first week in May prior to the Council's regularly scheduled May meeting. Vacancies shall be filled by those candidates receiving the largest number of votes. The announcement of election results shall be made during the following week.~~ All newly elected At-Large members shall be presented to the Parish membership at all masses as schedules allow. The Chairperson and other members of Council are encouraged to attend the presentations and such other members should also be presented to the Parish.

ARTICLE IV-OFFICERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 4. Officers shall be elected by written ballot ,or by motion, by the newly constituted Council at the first regular June Meeting. They shall serve until successors are elected.

ARTICLE V – PARISH COUNCIL SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

Section 3. An Historian ~~shall~~ may be appointed by the Executive Committee at the beginning of each Council year for a one-year term. The Historian ~~shall~~ may be chosen from Council membership.

ARTICLE VI- MEETINGS

Section 3. Meetings will be open to the general Parish membership unless Council determines the need for ~~Executive~~ Closed Session. Any Parish member may submit agenda items and address Council on those items. Proposed agenda items shall be submitted to the Executive Committee prior to the Executive Committee agenda meeting.

Section 4. The order of business at all Council meetings shall be as follows:

- A. Opening prayer
- B. Administrative Items (approval of minutes, Finance Council Report)
- C. Old Business
- D. New Business
- E. Closed Session (if needed)
- F. Standing Committee Report Highlights
- G. Pastor's Remarks
- H. Closing Prayer

ARTICLE VIII-COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AND DUTIES

Section 3. Standing Committees consist of parish members and a Chairperson elected by Committee members.

- F. Ecumenism Committee: This committee is responsible cooperating with the Diocesan Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. In particular, the committee's charge is to foster and promote ecumenical activities within the parish as well as with the larger Christian community in pursuit of full "Christian Unity" and interreligious understanding.
- G. Stewardship Committee: This committee is responsible for developing programs and projects which will maximize the opportunities for members of the Parish to contribute time, talent and treasure to fulfill the Parish mission. The Pastor, in consultation with the Council, may initiate and assign specific stewardship projects or programs to this committee for implementation.

ARTICLE X – RELATIONSHIPS

Section 1. The Council shall, where possible, use the process of consensus established in Call to Serve (Diocese of Richmond, latest version), seeking always to find general agreement among members on issues through common prayer and dialogue. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastor who exercises ultimate authority over Parish matters. Accordingly, no Council member shall be held personally liable for any actions or decisions taken by Council or the Pastor whether by consensus or by decision of the Pastor.