



## **THE PROCESS OF SELECTING A NEW PASTOR FOR CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT PARISH**

The process of determining where a priest will serve as a pastor in the Archdiocese of Chicago is prayerfully and carefully facilitated by the Cardinal, the Vicar Bishops of each Vicariate, the Deans, a priest who coordinates priest placement activities full-time and the Priests' Placement Board which consists of eight Archdiocesan priests. Members of the Priests' Placement Board meet weekly from September through June to assess the needs of parishes in light of placing pastors and associate pastors at parishes. Careful attention is given to determine how the Holy Spirit is calling particular priests to serve the needs of specific parishes in the Archdiocese. The process is focused on assessing each prospective pastor's talents and skills and matching them with the needs of specific parishes. The input of the staff, lay leadership and parishioners of each parish is extremely valuable to the process.

### **The process is outlined in brief below:**

1. A Parish Consultation has been scheduled at Church of the Holy Spirit Parish for **Monday, November 19, 2018**. Two members of the Priests Placement Board, the Bishop, and the Dean will have three separate meetings with the following groups in your parish to gather input about the qualities needed in your new pastor:
  - a. 4pm – meeting with the Parish Staff and Permanent Deacons.
  - b. 6pm – meeting with parish leadership (members of Parish Council, Finance Committee, etc.)
  - c. 7pm – meeting with all interested parishioners in a Town Hall format to discuss the strengths and challenges of the parish and the qualities needed in their next pastor. Input from parishioners is very important in the process. The present pastor and current staff members are asked not to attend this session so as to allow people to express their opinions openly.
2. A Parish Profile is compiled from information received at these parish meetings along with information regarding the parish's mission statement, ministries, finances and other facts about the parish. Prospective pastors who are interested in the parish get a copy of this parish profile to help them in their discernment.
3. Priests who are pursuing a pastorate complete a profile outlining their specific talents and skills and how the Holy Spirit is calling them to serve at their next assignment. Members of the Priests Placement Board will interview specific prospective pastors to determine their eligibility for being pastor of Church of the Holy Spirit Parish.
4. After sessions of formal prayer and several weeks of discernment the Priest Placement Board will make a recommendation to Bishop Rojas and Cardinal Cupich on which priest they recommend to become the next pastor of Church of the Holy Spirit Parish. In a consultative manner, Cardinal Cupich will make the final decision about who he will appoint as the next pastor of Church of the Holy Spirit Parish. This will happen in the Spring.

*If you have any further questions regarding the priest placement process please contact the Priests' Placement Office at 312-534-5270. Please pray for the continued guidance of the Holy Spirit in the process of selecting a new pastor for your parish. Please know that your input is profoundly needed and will be taken very seriously!*

## **TOWN HALL MEETING AT CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT PARISH**

**Location: Church Hospitality Room**

**Monday, November 19, 2018 at 7:00pm**

**Officials of the Archdiocese will be at Church of the Holy Spirit Parish to seek input from parishioners on the qualities needed in your next pastor. Please come to this meeting and provide information which will be used to select the next pastor of your parish.**