

DECREE
In Nomine Domini

On November 27, 1988, Bernard Cardinal Law promulgated Statutes known as “Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines” (hereafter “PPC Guidelines”). The PPC Guidelines became effective March 26, 1989. Pursuant to the provision of canon 536 §1, pastoral councils were to be established in every parish within two years of promulgation.

On November 15, 2012, I formally approved the pastoral plan, *Disciples in Mission*. The central purpose of *Disciples in Mission* is evangelization. In order to better utilize both human and temporal resources, the pastoral plan at times recommends entrusting the care of neighboring parishes to one pastor (hereafter the “Collaborative”). It is the intent of the pastoral Plan to assist Parishes and Collaboratives in becoming strong, stable, conscious and effective centers of the New Evangelization. Since in many cases this will be a fundamental transformation of the embraced mission of the Parish, every possible support is needed to help the Pastor to guide his team and advisors in that mission. *Disciples in Mission* brings all of the people who work to support the mission of the Church in the constituent Parishes together, working with one Pastor on the mission of evangelization.

Therefore, I, Seán P. Cardinal O’Malley, O.F.M., Cap., hereby decree and declare, pursuant to canons 381, 391, 8 §2, 29, 536 that Section III. A. 2. of the PPC Guidelines, that became effective March 26, 1989 be abrogated and the following take its place as particular law for the Archdiocese of Boston:

III. A.:

2. a. Every Collaborative, designated as such by the Archbishop, in accord with the pastoral plan, *Disciples in Mission*, is to have one pastoral council whose membership consists of at least two members from each parish in the Collaborative. All meetings of the pastoral council of a Collaborative shall be in common.

b. Every parish in the Archdiocese of Boston that is not in a Collaborative is to have a pastoral council.

This Decree will be promulgated by electronic mail to each Pastor/Administrator/Rector of the Archdiocese. This Decree shall become effective at 12:01 AM on September 15, 2013.

Given this 15th day of August, 2013 at the Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Boston in Braintree, Massachusetts.



Archbishop of Boston



Chancellor

