

**St. John XXIII Catholic Parish  
Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes from January 23, 2024**

**BE CHRIST INSPIRED, JOYFULLY LIVE OUR CALL**

**In Attendance:** Father Pat, John T, Jenny G, Dania S, Kay S, Cindy W, Dan B, Jim H, Marcia N, Sandra P, John W, Bill H, Allyson O (guest), Mark G (guest)

**Excused:** Chris F

**Opening Prayer** – Eucharistic Revival Reflection – John T  
Shared thoughts on what it means to say Eucharist is the Body of Christ.

**Approval of Minutes** – Minutes were approved as amended.

**Old Business:**

Updates from last meeting – Formation Commission – People have stepped up to join the Formation Commission. Still looking for members with school age children to join. A question arose if students (8<sup>th</sup> grade and above) were welcome to join the commission.

Updates from last meeting – Transparency of Information within the Parish – The Pastoral Council minutes are planned to be published once approved. It was decided that the approved minutes would be published on the Parish website in the bulletin tab area. Privacy concerns were discussed, and it was decided that members will be identified by first name and last initial. There will not be any reference to a member's e-mail or phone number unless specifically approved by the member. A link to the minutes will be added to the Signs of the Times newsletter and a QR code will be in the bulletin.

A concern was raised that the commission information is not complete in the pastoral council minutes because of the commission reporting procedures. The commission reports are limited to items not included in the minutes or questions regarding items in the minutes. To present full information, it was decided that all commission and committee minutes would be published in the same manner as the pastoral council minutes. The Finance Council and Personnel meeting minutes will not be shared due to sensitive information.

Commission/Committee liaisons will inform their groups that their approved minutes will be published and references to members should follow the first name last initial format.

Minutes should be posted on CCB and sent to Amy Jo S. CCB training is being provided to the commissions/committees.

**Strategic Plan and Initiatives for 2023/2024 – 2.1 Enhance the Sunday Experience and Beyond** – The pastoral council is asking for feedback on ideas for enhancing the Sunday experience from the commissions/committee by March 15. We need to let everyone know that we need help moving the Strategic Plan forward.

Discussed “What is Welcoming?” Ideas included: being aware of new faces and acknowledging people, being aware of all people we see, bringing back the welcoming cue (great your neighbors) before the start of mass, being a good listener, inviting people to parish events include a “look for me” with the invitation, noticing people sitting by themselves, just be nice, consider the addition of greeters.

The idea of Greeters at masses has been brought up previously and there is a concern that there may get to be too many people at the church entrances. The ushers are expected to greet people and do a good job. Dania S will spearhead discussing the possibility of adding a welcoming cue before mass and greeters with the Worship Commission.

The parish survey is finalized and will be sent out February 10. There will be a short turnaround time so there will be a lot of encouragement for quick response to the survey. Comments received from the pastoral council have been incorporated into the survey. The survey team will present the results of the survey when ready.

### **Commission/Committee Reports**

Human Concerns Commission – See commission minutes.

School Advisory Commission – See commission minutes. The school will be starting Bingo in February. Commissions have an opportunity to run concessions during bingo and keep 100 percent of the profits. The commission would be responsible for the menu and providing and removing products. Alcoholic drinks can be provided for a free will offering, otherwise would require a licensed bartender. Bingo will be the second Sunday of each month.

Discussed the potential for standardizing the concession menu to make it easier for groups. If groups express interest in hosting the concessions the logistics should be discussed. John W has experience with this.

The school would like to make connections with the commissions and committees.

Liaisons should bring this opportunity to their commission/committee. Bill L. is running the program.

Catholic Schools week kicks off next week (January 28).

The Key Event is coming up and auction items are still welcome.

The Winter Gymboree, held the second Saturday of the month, is going well.

There are new media monitors at St. Peters.

Stewardship Commission – About 35% of Parish families have returned the stewardship pledge. The amount of money pledged is at about the same level as where the stewardship campaign ended last year. The commission is looking for ways to get parishioners excited to give.

Evaluating having everyone wear name tags at mass.

Would like to have a prayer tree for Advent.

Worship Commission – See Meeting Minutes. Will discuss the Strategic Plan at the next meeting.

Communications Committee – No Report

Welcoming Committee – No Report. See committee minutes.

Evangelization Committee – No meeting due to weather. Emmaus 90 has a good turnout (about 50) and is going well. Father Don has agreed to a teaching mass.

Finance Committee – There is a correlation between teacher salary and tuition.

Parish Leadership Team – See team minutes.

Staff Report – See Meeting minutes.

The parish census included a question if you consider yourself a member of SJXXIII and if no, had a list of reasons why not. The results of this question were evaluated and discussed. It is a challenge to do something with the data received from a survey.

Scheduling for the Summer CRE program was discussed. Did not want to overlap with PWSSD summer school program or with teachers coming back to class.

At this point there is not anyone leaving the staff.

Other Items:

- Communications need to be open between the worship commission and the pastoral council as ideas for improving the mass experience come forward.

- The school is sending out a survey to 132 parish families that have school-age children that are not attending the SJXXIII school. 79 parish families send their children to SJXXIII.

Eucharistic Revival Prayer – John T