

St Joseph Catholic Church

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting
October 18, 2023

Present were:

Fr. Brian Eilers (Pastor)
Fr. Roopesh (Assoc.
Pastor)
Al Flores (Chair)

Christina Robertson
Matt Rice
Anna Damian
Marcel LeJeune

Donna Hanus
Leanne Southerland
Lorian Dusek
Taylor Schroll

Absent:

Lis Soto, Michael Alexander

Opening Prayer

The meeting opened at 6pm with a prayer led by Fr. Brian Eilers.

Members discussed the process of evangelization and catechesis and asked the staff present if these processes are online in a way that is clear for newcomers. One suggested that there be a “Start Here” section with the events or activities for beginners or newcomers. Another suggested that we invite people to Eucharist small groups in this year of the Eucharist. Finally, one suggested that there be more for men such as a Saturday morning Rosary group. Ideally we would only advertise entry level events or activities and would personally invite these people to a next step.

Regarding the new greeting before Mass, most perceive that this is being received well and some suggested even adding to it by inviting people to ask for a prayer intention of one other person and offer the Mass for that intention. Members also affirmed the Increased Offertory Campaign because it was well run and had great results.

The members discussed training for people who are ready to be missionary disciples and asked that the staff prepare this training so that we can make progress on our BHAG of 5,000 missionary disciples in the next 8 years.

The question of how people in the community perceive St. Joseph. Members suggested that it is the parish with long-time families but not as welcoming to new people. Some asked what it would take to change the perception to be the parish that is welcoming.

Finally, members discussed the challenges of a consumerist mentality when we desire people to take ownership of the parish such that they understand their role and that they know other families and commit to growing in holiness with them.

Closing Prayer

The meeting was closed with prayer and adjourned at approximately 7:30pm.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wed. **Dec 13th, 2023.**

Submitted by Fr. Brian Eilers