

St Joseph Catholic Church

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting

January 18, 2023

Present were:

Fr. Brian Eilers (Pastor)	Leanne Southerland	Michael Alexander
Fr. Will Rooney (Assoc. Pastor)	Taylor Schroll	Donna Hanus
Lis Soto (Secretary)	Matt Rice	

Absent:

Lorian Dusek, Anna Damian, Al Flores and Christina Robertson (Happy Birthday!)

Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Hours / Vespers - Evening Prayer was led by Father Brian Eilers 6:08 p.m.

Pastoral update by Father Will Rooney

The 150th Anniversary Celebration plans are coming together well. Bishop Joe Vasquez will offer mass at 11am on Sunday Mar 19, 2023, the feast day of St. Joseph. The goal is to help people connect and build even more community at St Joseph. This is not a fundraiser. Activities will be free. Many committees are working to get donations and plan lots of fun booths, food, music, and dancing. Activities will take place between the church and the PAC and in the parking lot between. We hope for good weather. Fr. Brian asked for a few volunteers who have the gifts and time to help call parishioners in order to update our church membership database.

A parish wide Pre-Lenten Mission is planned for Wednesday & Thursday evenings, Feb 15th & 16th. Wednesday is a family potluck and talk. Thursday is a talk, Eucharistic Adoration and Confession. Chris Bartlett and Kevin Kapchinski will be featured speakers. Come and meet Jesus.

"Called by name Sunday" on January 21 & 22 will be a promotion for recruiting vocations. If you know anyone who may be called to be a priest or nun, encourage them to attend and follow the call. If possible, supply their contact information to Fr. Will.

Fr. Will has created a new Homily Podcast at <https://stjosephbcs.fireside.fm/> to share our St. Joseph parish homilies. Each person's homily recordings will be available here to listen to.

Ash Wednesday on Feb. 22, 2023 is one of the largest attendance days of the year. There are many services planned to offer opportunities to hear about Jesus. A sign up will be promoted to get at least 48 helpers, 6 for each liturgy so that we can offer radical hospitality by handing out information cards, keeping areas clean, etc. Our new Prayer Team is forming to offer prayer at the services.

Our next Pastoral Council meeting will be moved up one week to Feb 8th to avoid conflict with Ash Wednesday.

An Alpha for Church staff will begin on Feb 2, meeting in the rectory from 11:30-12:30pm. This Staff Alpha will join the Day Away of the other spring 2023 Alpha, planned for Sat April 29th. Church staff will also be meeting for lunch from 1 PM - 2:30 PM on special Feast Days and Solemnities of the Liturgical year for a mixture of food, fun, prayer, and work to grow as individuals and as a team.

Our Discipleship Pathway

In hopes to offer alternative programs for parishioners after “Foundations”, Leanne S. and Taylor S. were asked to research what programs 3-5 other churches are offering after Alpha. Specific questions were discussed for how to best research and rate the results. We also need to ask what our parishioners are desiring after Foundations.

Fr. Will also posed a question about the unity of values between St. Joseph Church and St. Joseph School. Aligning their values and culture should lead to more unity (as their mission is already unified). Discussion confirmed that there is not currently complete unity. A few suggestions were made. Leanne S. suggested that students should wear their school uniforms to mass on Sundays to be more visible. Matt R. suggested seeking consultation on this issue, is it a common problem for parochial schools. Mike A. reminded us to check our motives for uniting both groups, that it should be for the betterment of God’s kingdom by creating missionary disciples who will carry out the Great Commission.

Other Announcements

The offertory part of mass has been reinstated. Crayons and papers are provided at the entrance of the church. Children are now invited to bring up their drawings during the offertory as a gift to Jesus. 65 or so papers were collected on this first weekend (Jan 15, 2023). Selected art will be displayed or highlighted in Flocknote.

Father Brian announced that Regnum Christi will be coordinating a Holy Week Door to Door visitation in our parish boundaries on Saturday April 8th. People of the parish will be invited to come to training and join a team.

Glory Stories

Matt R. shared that 2 SFA students have been recruited into our Ablaze Youth Program through their Taco Tuesday events. Leanne S. shared about prayer teams praying over people who attended the Advent Reconciliation event on Dec 21st, 2022. Mike A. shared about some great testimonials given at the Alpha Celebration on Jan. 8th, 2023.

Closing Prayer led by Fr. Brian.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wed. Feb 8th, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted by
Lis Soto, Secretary

