

# St Joseph Catholic Church

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting

**September 18, 2024**

**Present were:**

Fr. Brian Eilers (Pastor)

Lis Soto (Secretary)

Michael Alexander

Lorian Dusek

Taylor Schroll

Marcel LeJeune

Christina Robertson

Donna Hanus

Anna Damian

Matt Rice

Samantha Shepard

Leanne Southerland

**Absent:**

Marcel LeJeune

## Meeting Minutes

Fr. Brian called the meeting to order at 6:05pm with a prayer.

### DISCUSSION

Father Brian invited Michael A. to lead the meeting. He led a review of our purpose and goals for the near future. Canon Law (Universal Church Law), Particular Law (For our Diocese), and our parish Pastoral Council bylaws were used as a framework for our discussion.

Michael A. led a brainstorming session about what the Pastoral Council should be doing for St. Joseph's Church. After much discussion, these top 12 priorities were highlighted for future discussion and planning.

- 1) Getting more parishioners onto the Discipleship Pathway (Baseball Diamond)
- 2) Moving people along the pathway, making progress in faith development
- 3) Growing a culture of inclusivity and belonging at our parish
- 4) Evaluate what programs are giving fruit, BHAG
- 5) Develop a brand name, create a community ID
- 6) Plan some parish missions
- 7) Develop a strategic plan for our parish
- 8) Have more community involvement
- 9) Support and track Life Groups
- 10) Develop a parish culture

- 11) Improve relationship between church and school
- 12) Improve facilities / maintenance

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Fr. Brian wants to develop a survey for our parish and community at large to find out where we stand, so we can better help to move people along the Discipleship Pathway Diamond. These would be two important questions:

- 1) Where are you on the Discipleship Pathway Diamond?
- 2) What would you like our parish to work on?

Michael A. warned that action must be taken as a result of the surveys. What will we do with the results? How will we best listen? Institutionalized listening?

Taylor S. suggested that another group such as someone on the parish staff handle the survey, not the PC.

## **PARISH UPDATES**

Kevin Kapchinski is working on improving the sound in the Church.

Teams of Our Lady, an apostolate that forms small groups for married couples, will be introduced to our parish to begin in October.

Fr. Brian has invited some nuns to work at our school. He is still waiting for an answer.

An area-wide mission is planned for this fall with speaker Curtis Martin. Also Dat Nguyen has been invited to speak at our men's retreat this spring 2025.

Some new evening Bible studies have formed. Women's group: Walking with Purpose. Men's Group: The Chosen video series.

Fr. Brian gave a financial update. Last year around this time, we paid off the Good Shepherd Chapel and Campus so we are no longer in debt! But major repairs are needed at the elementary school and new doors are needed at the main church.

**Closing Prayer led by Father Brian**

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wed. October 16, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Lis Soto