

St Joseph Catholic Church

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting

May 21, 2025

Members in Attendance

Fr. Brian Eilers (Pastor)
Fr. Joy Adimakkeel (Assoc)
Michael Alexander (Pres)

Dave Cochran
Lorian Dusek
Tim Michl

Jen Norris
Matt Rice
Christina Robertson
Leanne Southerland

Members Absent

Anna Damian
Donna Hanus
Samantha Shepard
Taylor Schroll

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm with an opening prayer.

Reflections on Pastoral Council Listening Conversations

Desired Outcome: Provide feedback to Fr. Brian and the council about the experiences of our parishioners and guests at St. Joseph. Share key insights: good news, challenges, and movements of the Holy Spirit. Share parish experiences with the priest and understand parish dynamics.

- Members reported that parishioners are stating, "The Parish feels alive."
- Is there an opportunity for PC members to ask parishioners, "Is there something I can pray for you?"
- Members were encouraged to make all feel welcome

Personal Histories Exercise

Desired Outcome: To onboard our three new council members and reacquaint ourselves with each other.

Members in attendance were asked to share with others the following information:

- Where did you grow up?
- How many kids were in your family?
- What was your first job?
- What difficulties did you have as a kid?
- How long have you been at St. Joseph?
- What do you believe we do as a Pastoral Council - or - for the new members - What excites you about being here on the council?

Parish and School Updates

Goal: Ensure the council is informed to listen effectively.

Father Brian updated council members on the following activities:

- Parish festival was a success. There was discussion about the date and venue
 - In the future, there will be a volunteer sign-in
 - Need more donations
 - Suggested a dance/band, maybe invite the school choir, theatre
 - Consider eliminating the congested areas between the silent auction and children's play area
- ELC - there are 71 kids enrolled; anticipate having three baby rooms
- St. Joseph School - lots of events: awards, graduation, sports. Some teachers are leaving as others join.
- May 1st - the elementary school students processed to church
- Youth - high school/middle school nights, altar server camp planned for summer
- Sacramental formation - 30 kids, 15 adults
- OCIA - new individuals will be joining
- Date night - coming up in June
- Fr. Joy and Fr. Brian will be taking some time off during the summer.
- June 21st - Eucharistic procession
- Parish directory - at the printer
- Building committee is developing a master plan
 - Looking at fixing parking lot and re-stripping spaces

Other

Goal: Fr. Brian hears Council opinions

No additional information was shared.

Closing Prayer with Petitions

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted by
Christina Robertson