

St Joseph Catholic Church

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting
August 17, 2022

Present were:

Fr. Brian Eilers (Pastor)	Leanne Southerland	
Fr. Will Rooney (Assoc. Pastor)	Taylor Schroll	Michael Alexander
Al Flores (Chair)	Anna Damian	Lorian Dusek
Lis Soto (Secretary)	Christina Robertson	

Absent:

Matt Rice, Dennis Hoffman, Donna Hanus, Donnie Victorick

Opening Prayer led by Father Will Rooney 6:02 p.m.

Strategic Thinking

Discussion focused on the discipleship pathway programs: **Alpha and Foundations and Quads**. Four separate Alpha courses are planned for fall 2022: Sunday 3:30pm (babysitting provided), Sunday 6:30pm (Ablaze), Tue 6:00pm (babysitting provided) and Tue 6:00pm (newly married couples, as part of our new Young Married Couples Ministry, will meet at Schoenfelder's home). By Spring, many will be ready for Foundations, but there is only one Foundations instructor, Taylor Schroll, so a bottleneck is predicted. A future discussion is needed to address this issue of providing ongoing education and the "formation of disciple makers" after Alpha.

Graduates from Foundations are forming quads now. Everyone is encouraged to support Alpha by returning as a member of the Alpha team.

Fr. Will suggested adding another Alpha Sunday night for parents of youth at the same time as high school youth Alpha, but it was decided that there is not enough leadership (yet) to run so many Alphas at one time. Spring 2023 Alpha may go back to 6:30pm on Sundays to target Ablaze families.

Discussion also included brainstorming ways to promote Alpha and target certain groups. Father Will will send two Alpha invitation emails: 1) St. Joseph School staff and 2) all newly registered parishioners. Then Pastoral Council members will call them personally.

Christina R. suggested we revisit the strategic planning session that was conducted in summer 2021 to ensure that we are still aligned with our stated goals.

Pastoral update by Father Brian Eilers

Faith Formation classes are registering now. 100 youth are registered for RE so far, with a goal of 400. Personal calls are being made to invite families to participate in Family Faith Formation. Donuts will be available after the 9am mass on Aug. 21st to encourage sign ups.

St. Joseph School registration was at 324 students on the first day of school.

A bereavement group has begun with 20 participants and 2 leaders/counselors. This group fills a need at our parish.

Other Business

Michael A. suggested that we continue to discuss how we continue to make our parish as welcoming as possible. This discussion was tabled for another day.

Closing Prayer led by Father Will.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wed. Sept 21st, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted by
Lis Soto, Secretary