

St Joseph Catholic Church

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting
May 18, 2022

Present were:

Fr. Brian Eilers (Pastor)
Al Flores (Chair)
Lis Soto (Secretary)

Leanne Southerland
Matt Rice
Anna Damian
Dennis Hoffman

Taylor Schroll
Donna Hanus
Michael Alexander

Absent:

Donnie Victorick, Christina Robertson and Lorian Dusek

Opening Prayer led by Father Brian 6:00 p.m.

Team Building

Fr. Brian invited all to share prayer intentions to be added to our opening prayer.

Strategic Thinking

We reviewed our Mission Statement: To Meet, Know, Live, and Share Christ. We also looked at the Christian Growth Cycle (Baseball Diamond) and where our new programs (Alpha, Foundations, and Quads) are, along the discipleship pathway.

Fr Brian announced that the Annual Festival on May 15th, 2022 at the (climate controlled) Expo made over \$100,000. Discussion followed about ways to improve the Parish Festival for 2023.

Also, the Council discussed dreams for improving facilities such as remodeling the PAC, expanding church bathrooms and narthex, and making better use of the Good Shepherd Chapel. Possibly, another mass could be added on Sunday morning this fall 2022. A retreat center renovation is not needed as there are numerous retreat centers available locally.

Pastoral update by Father Brian Eilers

Father Brian reported that major markers like mass attendance and donations are up, with 1400 people attending mass each weekend and donations surpassing \$30,000 per week. The church budget is healthy with only one major debt, the mortgage on Christ the Good Shepherd Chapel. Plans are approved to add staff to help with parish programs. The church bells in the tower are repaired.

Kevin K. submitted a report on the faith formation programs and the sacramental preparation process. 60 children will receive first Holy Communion over several weekends this spring 2022. This is up from 42 last year. The Confirmation mass was a nice collaboration between several parishes on Divine Mercy Sunday. Altogether, over 100 people received sacraments of initiation in the last month. Vacation Bible School is in need of more adult volunteers, with over 100 children already registered.

Alpha Course and Foundations

Father Brian invited Pastoral Council members to attend the Divine Renovation Conference in Dallas on July 18-20, 2022. Four Pastoral Council members: Anna D., Leanne S., Michael A., and Al F., plan to attend the conference along with Fr. Brian and the new Associate Pastor (not yet named publicly).

Alpha #2 will begin on June 5th with at least 14 team members, training on Sunday May 22. This course will meet Sundays 6:30-8:30pm, but future Alpha courses may find a new day of the week and time (possibly Monday nights). This summer Alpha #2 is listed on the Alpha website. It was decided that Leanne will order resource books for leaders and participants in this Alpha #2. Other support such as prayer training resources are also available upon request from Alpha.

Taylor explained the format for Foundations. It will begin on June 6th and continue on Mondays from 6:30-8:00pm for 10 weeks. Foundations will be similar to the Alpha format with small group discussions but with no videos and with added homework. Meetings will be held at Donna H.'s home. Meetings will be led by Taylor S. and Jennifer Stavinoha.

Fr. Brian will begin announcing St. Joseph's pastoral plan in the fall of 2022, as the third Alpha begins.

Other Business

Father Fernando Ricaud (newly ordained priest) will offer Saturday evening mass on Saturday, June 25, with a reception following in the PAC.

Our new Associate Pastor will be announced May 28/29 at Masses and will begin on July 5st.

Closing Prayer led by Fr. Brian

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wed. June 15th, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted by
Lis Soto, Secretary