

# St Joseph Catholic Church

Minutes of the Pastoral Council Meeting  
**June 15, 2022**

**Present were:**

Fr. Brian Eilers (Pastor)  
Al Flores (Chair)  
Lis Soto (Secretary)  
Donnie Victorick  
Leanne Southerland

Matt Rice  
Anna Damian  
Dennis Hoffman  
Taylor Schroll  
Donna Hanus

Michael Alexander  
Lorian Dusek  
Christina Robertson

**Absent:**

none

**Opening Prayer** led by Father Brian 6:00 p.m. All were invited to offer petitions.

**Team Building**

Fr. Brian invited all to share their highlights from the past month.

**Strategic Thinking**

We looked at the Christian Growth Cycle (Baseball Diamond) and where our new programs (Alpha, Foundations, and Quads) are, along the discipleship pathway. Discussion about The Bible Timeline (24 weekly sessions) determined that it would come after one year of Quads, on the discipleship pathway.

The summer, 2022 Alpha has 68 guests registered (12 weekly sessions) with 28 team members.

The summer "Foundations" program has 18 registrants (10 weekly sessions).

There are currently 4 Discipleship Quads groups (52 weekly sessions). Each group reported with enthusiasm about growing our faith community.

**Pastoral update by Father Brian Eilers**

Father Brian reported that mass attendance and donations are up, with income well above budget. Father Brian hopes to prepare an annual report that would express our mission statement and explain St Joseph's Pastoral Plan. He shared some sample ideas and asked for feedback.

Leanne S. suggested that we include graphs and attendance of pathway programs (Alpha, Foundations, Quads, Bible Timeline) and even our debts and diocesan tax into the annual report. She also suggested to send this year end report, showing gratitude with the annual contribution statements. The annual report should show the life of the parish and tell a story, not just in numbers.

Father Brian expressed that he does not currently have someone to collect and prepare all this data. But he hopes to hire an Assistant Director of Religious Education/Ministry soon. This person would help manage the pathway programs and facilitate other ministries.

Summer program highlights include:

- Vacation Bible School with 125 registrants and nearly 100 attendees the first day.
- Middle School retreat at Messiah's ranch (still taking registrations).
- High School Mission trip to San Juan del Valle in Mission, Texas.

St. Joseph school has hired a new Assistant Principal to oversee the Elementary campus. The school ended the 2021-2022 school year with 330 students. We are planning for 350-360 for 2022-2023.

Father Will Rooney, the new Assistant Pastor, will begin working here on July 10<sup>th</sup>. He will be in charge during Father Brian's sabbatical this fall 2022.

### **Other Business**

Question:

"How can we make our parish more welcoming to young families?"

Discussion centered around how to involve children during the offertory. Several recommendations were mentioned.

It was also determined that we need to find one responsible parent/adult to volunteer to help organize babysitting services during church programs. High school students would also be needed to volunteer help with children's services and/or babysitting during adult programs. If possible, donuts once a month would be a good community attraction for families.

Leanne S. reported that she attended a Steubenville Adult Conference last week. She attended a presentation about parish missions. Her report was tabled to next month's meeting in July.

### **Closing Prayer led by Taylor S.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wed. July 20th, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Lis Soto, Secretary