

St John's Pastoral Council

Fr. Temo Ramirez, Pastor

Steve Duncan, 2024-2026

Cassandra Elizalde, 2023-2026

Jorge Flores, Vice-Chair, 2023-2036

John Gent, 2024-2027

Jacqueline Hemmer 2024-2025

Laura Jackson, 2023-2026

Helen MacDonald 2024-2027

Tyler Saty, 2024-
2027

Helen Sheerin, Chair, 2022-
2025

Colleen Torrens, 2023-2026

Aide Veliz, 2024-
2027

Ann Makar, Recording Secretary

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

21-Mar-25

All council members were in attendance except Cassandra Elizalde, Jorge Flores and John Gent. Father Temo and Ann Makar were also absent. Lori Jimerson, PAA was present. Notes were taken by the Chair, and the February minutes were approved.

Pastoral Report - Lori Jimerson, PAA

Lori reminded us that the bulletins for all the churches in the parish will be combined into one bulletin within the next couple of weeks. With this new format, please submit eleven (11) days prior to publishing as combining is a major task. Garri Linardos is the editor.

Lori gave everyone present a handout titled "How **not** to Simplify Schedules." She discussed now that we are One Parish, Fr. Temo's calendar has been inundated with meetings, and also that there is a right way and wrong way to hold a meeting. The guideline she handed out discussed both the correct and incorrect methods.

PFAC will meet in May to discuss June synod sessions. The synod discussion is to decide who we are as a Parish family. (Just a reminder, each church will keep its own name. The Parish is all five churches combined.) The end game is that we will have an identity that will match us with the pre-approved family names picked by the Archdiocese.

For example, we will be St. John the Evangelist church of new name here Parish.

Go to the web page for One Parish Plan if you wish to familiarize yourself with the process.

Fr. Achilles was only able to get a six (6) month visa. His current plan is to come in July. This is subject to change. He also would like to get some traveling in.

With regard to the budget, all expenses are now pre-approved by either Fr. Temo or Lori Jimerson.

Old Business

Per the Archdiocese, we cannot give sanctuary to unlawful immigrants. Neither are we to "help" ICE. At the last meeting, we were given instructions should anyone approach the church, but it did not answer the sanctuary question.

Old Business (cont.)

Still having trouble with scheduling E.M.s and Lectors. Jacqueline restated that many of the E.M.s are not computer savvy and would like to physically sign up. She asked Lori if it were possible to take the computer print out and put copies at the Welcome desk for E.M.s and Lectors. Lori said that she would take care of it.

New Business

We discussed possible reasons for the drop in church giving.

- Angry with the Archdiocese with regard to their attitude toward our ability to give.

- Doesn't feel like giving; it feels more like they are demanding.

- Psychologically weary of the number of "special" collections (and envelopes).

- Parishioners unsure how monies are spent.

- Some parishioners give to specific charities because they are not sure where their money is going otherwise. A more detailed annual report might help.

Priests visiting more after masses.

- Parishioners want and need to get to know the Priests better. Would the Priests be willing to stay after the masses longer and mingle with the congregation? Come to Coffee and Donuts or hang out at the front of the church and engage with Parishioners? Say, 30 minutes after each mass?

The Pastoral Council will continue even after Family 44 Parish joining is complete.

To that end, it is time to start looking for new Council members. We will pick in either August or September. The council does not meet over the summer unless necessary.

May will be our last meeting of the year.

Liaison Report Highlights

Funeral & Bereavement - We need two (2) volunteers to act as supervisors.

- The two people currently doing this are quite elderly and wish to step away.

- We need replacements before they do step away.

- It was suggested that something be placed in the bulletin last meeting. No action has happened to date.

Aidé Véliz - she has spoken with several of our elderly parishioners who would like a chance to come to Eucharistic Adoration during the day. They do not drive at night.

Helen Sheerin - Red Cross drive was a success, but not as big as past drives. Also, there is some

concern over a rumor of instating a fee and charging the Red Cross to use our facilities. While we may start charging other groups in the future to use the facility, it is unclear at this time whether we will charge the Red Cross.

Fun on the Run planning will start in April. The dinner was held in June last year and seemed to be better received. It will be in June again this year.

Liaison Report Highlights (cont.)

Colleen Torrens - The tree that needed felling is down, but the stump remains. It was discussed that there is a product that kills the roots of the stump and can be bought at Home Depot. It was decided to buy this product.

There are new signs at the Cemetery now giving notice when gravesites are cleaned. Also ready and to be posted are new signs stating hours. Small items found at the cemetery will be put in a bucket and brought to church so people can retrieve them if they want them.

We need to come up with a system/timeline of when flowers will be removed.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
NEXT MEETING MOVED TO THURSDAY, APRIL 24
Fireside Room 6 PM