

St. John's Pastoral Council

Fr. Temo Ramírez, Pastor

Steve Duncan, 2024-2026

Helen MacDonald, 2024-27

Cassandra Elizalde, 2023-26

Tyler Saty, 2024-27

Jorge Flores, Vice-Chair, 2023-26

Helen Sheerin, Chair, 2022-25

John Gent, 2024-27

Colleen Torrens, 2023-26

Jacqueline Hemmer, 2024-25

Aidé Véliz, 2024-27

Laura Jackson, 2023-26

Ann Makar, Recording Secretary

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2025

All council members, except Aidé Véliz and Tyler Saty, were present. Also present were Lori Jimerson and Lorena Heredia. The pastor opened with prayer at 6:04. The minutes from the March 21 meeting were approved as submitted.

Pastoral Report

Pastoral Assistant for Administration (PAA) Lori Jimerson noted that Pope Francis passed away Monday, April 21. She distributed a document from the archdiocese on One Parish Planning the Partners in the Gospel process. The Parish Family Advisory Council will discuss the questions "Who are we?" and "Who do we want to become?" at its May 2 meeting at Sacred Heart. There will be at least one synodal gathering for everybody who desires to give input. Pastoral and finance councils will continue to be involved in the one-parish-family plan.

A cemetery sexton will be hired to manage the three cemeteries in our parish family. Some funding will come from the grant we received for them.

Three employees in the family resigned their positions recently: a bookkeeper, a PAA, and a Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation (PAFF). One of them relocated to a position with the family.

The Ginn Group has requested talks with St. John's regarding the possibility of buying land on the south side of the campus for a 45-foot road with sidewalk that would serve a proposed residential development. Fr. Temo wants to be sure our parish is a good neighbor to others.

PAFF Melissa Alonso helped write a policy for the use of our parish family naves for quinceañera celebrations. The paperwork to be given to coordinators of these events will promote consistently in the parish family and reverence for our sacred spaces. Use of these spaces will require a deposit of \$1,250, some of which may be refundable when participants have completely cleaned them after the event. The new policy for quinceañera events, which are held once/month, will take effect July 1. There are usually four girls celebrating, but Fr. Temo allows up to six girls to participate at each event.

There's a convocation for "Co-workers in the Vineyard" in Tukwila from 10:15 to 3:30 Saturday, May 8. It will take place at the Vietnamese Martyrs Church.

Father encourages us all not to use cell phone during a liturgy, but they are sometimes necessary, e.g., for people with a serious medical condition. Laura will talk to Carolyn Martin, and Helen S. will talk to Louise and Karen Stangel so that they may discuss this with the people serving as ushers and welcoming visitors. We want to maintain our reputation as the friendliest parish in the deanery.

Input from Father Temo

Fr. Temo again reminded EMHC's that they must be sure the person receiving Holy Communion has consumed before distributing to the next person. Ushers will also be watching to see the consecrated host consumed immediately.

Regarding lectors, it looks very bad if someone leans on the ambo or licks a finger to turn a page. When proclaiming the word, lectors must not pick up the lectionary but leave it on the ambo. Every one of them should practice before proclaiming the word at the ambo. Lectors and sacristans should leave the colored ribbon in the lectionary where it is at the start of Mass, not advance it to another page.

Leaders of every ministry must arrange for training and formation of their groups at least twice/year. Members must know how and why to carry out their ministries well and must grow in the faith. Those involved in more than one ministry may choose which training and formation to attend and then obtain the notes from the sessions they did not attend. Leaders are to inform the office so that one of the clergy may be present at the sessions.

Andrew Hollands will lead a pilgrimage to Rome next April shortly after Easter. Lent will run from Feb. 18 through April 3.

So many activities and liturgies are celebrated in November and December that we need a planning meeting in October. Soon Father will choose a date and inform us.

Fr. Temo is willing to announce at the end of Masses that we need more volunteers to help clean the church.

Liaison Report Highlights

- John reported that SVDP is planning an open house at its food pantry in the Ozanam House Sunday, June 22. The group also hopes to be open one Saturday/month for those who can't come to the food pantry on a weekday.
- Jacque shared that many EMHC's are not staying to wash vessels after Mass. Also, there is no way to sign up to serve as an EMHC, sacristan, or lector except online, and this is inconvenient for some people. As we'd like to see better communication and fewer surprises regarding Palm Sunday Masses next year, Jacque suggests a liturgical ministry meeting be held beforehand.
- Helen S. assured Louise that ushers and Welcome Committee members are not required to dress a certain way. The Coffee & donuts ministry is running smoothly with many people stopping in Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. The first planning meeting for the June 21 Fun on the Run will be held at Bernie Gerhardt's home May 7.
- Laura reported that an explanation of new duties for ushers is posted on the bulletin board between the sacristy and the narthex. For more, see addenda.
- Helen M. said that the funeral reception and bereavement ministries want more help.
- Colleen shared that Sherry Bailey and she have drafted a plan for something known as a Lazarus Team, which is a way to help families arrange a funeral. It connects them to the several ministries with which it's necessary to communicate when arranging a funeral. Colleen said that volunteers continue cleaning the cemetery weekly. From now on, only Catholics may purchase a burial space or be buried there. Regarding cleaning of the church, Colleen will send a message to crew leaders to have them clean rollers of vacuum cleaners before and after they clean, because so much hair is wrapped around the rollers.
- Steve strongly believes we need to hire a music coordinator and agrees with Father that we need meetings for spiritual growth.

At 8:05 Lori led us in a closing prayer. The next council meeting will be 5:45 PM in the Fireside Room Thursday, May 15. We expect not to meet after that until September.