

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting Location: St. Joseph Room

Date/Time: February 25, 2026 – 6:30 pm

Notes By: Sarah Navis

Attendees: Father Justin Lopina, Jennifer Mendoza, Tom Zimmerman, Sandy Schmitt, Suzanne Silman, Rachel Blackwood, Jeremy Blackwood, Bryanna VanVreede, Larry Barbian, Carol Polivka and Duane Filtz.

Excused: Joe Herro, Alanna Wilgus, Paul Petrides, Kelly Ciriacks, Jill Pitterle, Kevin Scott, Megan Harney, Joe McCool, and Mike Smrz.

Meeting started at 6:30 p.m. with an opening prayer by Duane Filtz.

The agenda was approved.

Committee Reports:

Home and School: Sweetheart dance was well attended, and they are looking forward to the Mother/Son bowling outing in March. Work continues for school High Interest Day coming up on May 1st.

School Committee: Jeremy Blackwood and Bryanna VanVreede commented that the school committee continues to work on the PR campaign for the school. The plan is to put the new campaign into action for the 2026-2027 school year. There has been a lot of interest in K4 and K5 and they have given many tours of the school. In approximately 3 weeks the archdiocese will be at St. Joseph school to perform a school accreditation review.

Stewardship: For Lent, they continue to use social media as a form of communication about Lenten activities. New families have been invited to join the next Donut Sunday in March. Plans for St. Joseph day celebration continue to move forward.

Building and Grounds: Building and Grounds are continuing to work on the annual update to the five- year plan. The plan will be shared with Finance in March.

Insurance related repair work is almost completed. The last flood related repair will be the installation of new upper cabinets in the kitchen. In preparation, Matt Adams removed cabinets and one of the committee members repaired and painted the kitchen wall. Installation will likely take place near Easter.

Requests not to park in the striped areas adjacent to the disabled parking spaces have been put in the bulletin and will also be in the upcoming newsletter. B&G and the ushers

are working on addressing how to handle parking issues that have taken place related to parking in those areas.

Faith Formation: Larry Barbian reported there is active interviewing going on for the Director of Religious Formation. They continue to discuss how to revitalize the Religious Education program at St. Joseph.

Continuing Business:

- A. Fr. Holzhauser's gravestone – Building and grounds will pick this up again later in the spring. The cemetery commented to them that they cannot do any repair until the ground is thawed.
- B. St. Joseph Day Celebrations review of roles: No issues brought up by any of the Pastoral Council members or other chairs present. We will celebrate Mass at 6:00 pm on Thursday, March 19th. Dinner to follow. See the bulletin for the RSVP.
- C. Financial Peace University program – Details continue to be formed for this summer start dates projected to be in early June. Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University is the nine-week class that teaches you step by step how to pay off debt fast and build wealth for your future.

New Business:

- A. Finance Council representative– It was requested that a representative from Pastoral Council should be in attendance for the Finance Council meetings. Father stated that since both trustees, Tom Zimmerman and Sandy Schmitt attend the Pastoral Council meeting regularly, no additional Pastoral Council representation is required at the Finance Council meetings.

Review of Action items: No action items

Closing remarks by Father: The Welcome Center table is an area for active discussions and available for any groups to use as a meeting place before or after church services. Please keep this table from becoming a passive display table. If an area for resource documents is needed, we can get a bookshelf or other type of display table for that purpose.

- A. The next Pastoral Council Meeting: TBD.
- B. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. with a Closing Prayer by Sarah Navis.