Blessed Trinity/St. John Evangelist
Joint Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2026 6:30 pm Blessed Trinity Church Hall

Our Mission: *Working for the Salvation of Souls*

Council Members Present: Sarah Schueffner, Rick Michaletz, Scott Birenbaum, Nancy Mathieu, Mary Jo Schultz, Jim O'Neill, Terry Hartman, Kimberly Hoffmann, Kristine Cvetan, Siena M., Rita Woodworth

Parish Staff Present: Fr. Michael Lawinger and Justin Spaeth

Absent: Donna Steighorst, Anthony B.

Call to Order: Sarah Schueffner

Opening Prayer: Fr. Michael
Fr. Michael read the Liturgical reading of the day and led a discussion with regards to what individuals took from the passage.

Approval of Agenda: Terry Hartman suggested adding greeters and ushers handing out bulletins to the agenda; however, Father reports this is being addressed with another group. Rick Michaletz moved to approve the agenda as presented. Jim O'Neill seconded the motion.

Approval of Minutes:
Rich Michaletz moved to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2026, Joint Pastoral Council meeting. Nancy Mathieu seconded the motion.

Old Business:

- Overview/ goals for the future: Father Michael presented a general overview of a draft 5-year plan and goals for the parishes.
- Catholic High School: discussions are ongoing and no new decisions or timelines have been identified.
- Blessed Trinity Convent building: Proxy was received from the Archdiocese approving repairs to the building using funds from the Love One Another campaign.
- Religious Education update: Father Michael shared a draft of a video he has created highlighting interviews with participants from the 2-week Religious Education program held this summer and will share with parishioners when completed. Justin shared feedback he has received from parents. Father and Justin encourage parishioners to bring forth barriers to attending the program so accommodation can be discussed. Dates for the summer 2027 program will be published soon to allow time for family summer planning.
- Parish picnic feedback: Feedback was very positive and attendance was very good. The Picnic committee will meet later this week and will provide further feedback after their meeting.

New Business:

- Pastoral Council: Sarah Schueffner thanked outgoing members of the council for their service. Steven Falconer is resigning his position due to other obligations and is hoping to serve again in the future. The council welcomes new members from BT: Rita Woodworth first term, Mary Jo Schultz first year of second term, Scott Birenbaum first year of second term, and Siena M. second year youth representative. From SJE: Kimberly Hoffman, first term, Chris Cvetan first term and Anthony B. first year youth representative.

  - All members confirmed access to the shared Pastoral Council folder and that they have received their manuals. Those members who need Safe Environment training should have received notification from Gretchen.
  - Sarah Schueffner will continue as Chairperson, Rick Michaletz as Vice Chairperson and Rita Woodworth accepting the Secretary position.
  - Members have submitted their photos and Sandy/ Gretchen will get the Joint Pastoral Council posters printed and distributed.

- Jerry Ziegler Lifetime Achievement Award Committee: Nancy Mathieu, Terry Hartman and Mary Jo Schultz will work as a subcommittee to nominate a Blessed Trinity parish member for the annual award to be presented at Autumn Fest on October 24th, 2026. They will send recommendations to Father Michael.
- Deanery Meeting November 7, 2026: Kristine Cvetan will represent BT/ SJE at the Fond du Lac/Sheboygan Counties' Deanery meeting.

Pastor's Report:
Father deferred a further report given his earlier presentation on goals for the parishes.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:
The next meeting of the Joint Pastoral Council will be September 29th which is the 5th Tuesday as Father is not available the 4th Tuesday. Meeting will be at St. John Evangelist. Rick Michaletz suggested an update on programming/ content for the Religious Education programs for the next meeting.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Michael