

**Blessed Trinity/St. John Evangelist
Joint Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2026 7:00 PM St John Evangelist Church Hall**

Our Mission: *Working for the Salvation of Souls*

Council Members Present: Sarah Schueffner, Rick Michaletz, Al Mayer, Scott Birenbaum, Paul Garni, Nancy Mathieu, Mary Jo Schultz, Donna Steighorst, Bridgitt Zielke, Mason Klahn, Jim O'Neill, Terry Rotter

Parish Staff Present: Fr. Michael Lawinger and Justin Spaeth

Excused Absence: Siena M.

Call to Order: Sarah Schueffner

Opening Prayer: Fr. Michael

Fr. Michael read three parables and led a discussion with regards to what individuals took from the parables he read.

Approval of Agenda: Rick Michaletz moved to approve the agenda as presented. Scott Birenbaum seconded the motion.

Approval of Minutes:

Clarification was made with regards to the split for the Shared Service Agreement. For many of the services, Blessed Trinity will pay 60% of the expenses while St John Evangelist will pay 40% of the expenses as was deemed equitable by the Finance Council.

Mason Klahn also noted that he was not in attendance at the meeting.

Jim O'Neill moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2026, Joint Pastoral Council meeting with the two changes. Rick Michaletz seconded the motion.

Old Business:

- Youth and Adult Pastoral Council & Trustee Nominations
 - Fr. Michael shared that there were no new nominees for the Trustee positions at Blessed Trinity and they will remain the same.
 - Fr. Michael shared there will be a presentation by individuals from the Archdiocese regarding the role of the Pastoral Council and Trustees on July 22. This will be followed by discernment on July 29 for those individuals interested in being members of the Pastoral Council.
- State of the Parish Address

Feedback regarding Father's State of the Parish address on June 6 was shared. Much of the feedback was regarding the changes to religious education. Much was discussed and Father and Justin will plan on providing more information regarding the new format and Wednesday night meetings which will be held throughout the year for all parishioners to attend.
- Faith & Food Social – Sarah thanked all those that helped with the Faith & Food Social that was held after the June 7 mass at Blessed Trinity.
- Parish Picnic – A reminder that the Parish Picnic will be on Sunday, August 16.

New Business:

- Donations to Charities

Jim O'Neill shared his experiences volunteering for St Vincent DePaul and the fulfillment he received from the visits he makes on behalf of St Vincent DePaul in the area. This led to a discussion of how we should consider not only supporting charitable organizations in the area through our monetary donations but to also considering giving of our time to support their missions.

There are many worthy charities that were mentioned that we can support. Fr. Michael did note that with the Feast of St Vincent DePaul falling on a Sunday this year, he is looking to do a second collection to support the many things St Vincent DePaul does in our area. This will take place at the end of September.

Pastor's Report:

Fr. Michael shared some recent interactions that he had with some summer interns that are working in some of our local businesses. Father asked them for feedback about what they are looking for from the church. He shared the excitement these interns had about being part of the church and how they were engaged in their Catholic ministry.

Items for Next Meeting's Agenda:

The next meeting of the Joint Pastoral Council will be in August. This will be the first meeting for any new members of the Council. It was noted that this meeting will be the last one for those members not returning.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Michael