St. John Parish Council Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2026

Attending: Janet, Sue, Trent, Jenny, Liz, Michelle, Barb, Doug, Gary, Bill

1. Opening Prayer- SJB Fire & Rebuilding prayer
2. Committee Reports
    a. CCD & Religious Education (Dana Kugel)
        i. Program updates:
            1. Preschool has 9 currently registered, first class was 10/4/26. Room was cleaned out, removed tables.
        ii. Religious education CCD –
            1. 379 students K-12 enrolled
        iii. Upcoming events
            1. Reconciliation for grades 10-12th, last group
            2. Server training 10/14/26
            3. Nativity Play – 12/16/26 – need help with this
            4. 2026-27 Calendar is posted, website is current
            5. Exalt
            6. "Encounter Night" Saul to Paul for MCC is Nov 11, 2026
        iv. Youth Group
            1. 2026/27 schedule is complete & distributed
            2. May adjust time based on feedback
            3. 2026-27 budget – asked parents to donate $10 to cover cost of supplies, snacks and activities. Raised $300+ from JHYG, HS collection will be 10/18/26
            4. We have petty cash – talking to Sue about opening account
            5. MCC CYO - Talking to Sue about combining all 5 parishes (MCC) into one account and coordinating funds & fundraising this way. This is our second year combining parishes to create BB teams. Dana will lead all administrative tasks, to support the volunteers helping with this program.
        v. Children's choir
            1. 50 students enrolled between 2nd-7th grades.
            2. Wednesday nights, 6-6:45 pm @ school, 2nd-8th graders
        vi. Open Discussion
            1. Feedback for modifications/changes
            2. RTL Shirts – better coordination for next year or a sponsor to buy all kids a shirt.
        vii. Additional Notes

1. We are trying to coordinate students to attend the March for Life in Washington, DC. Looking for donations to help offset costs ($345/student)
2. Children's Nativity Play has been moved from Christmas Eve Mass to Wednesday, December 16th - opening up to parishioners to attend. Sarah Bergman is working on sewing and replacing material costumes. Will need to order accessories.
3. Youth Group students are decorating a tree at St. Charles' Festival of Lights. Encouraging parishioners to visit. Donations collected will go back to our program. JH & HS will also participate in Illuminite on Dec. 7th.
4. CYO Basketball - We put every registration in FinalForms to create more transparency with the financials of the program. Rosters & teams are made. MCC Website is up-to date with the program.

b. CYO (Sara Mescher & Jen Meier)
    i. St. John CYO kicked off the 2026-27 school year. We have combined MCC basketball teams again this year, 4 boys teams, one girl team. Game schedules are posted on the MCC website. The St John CYO is also supporting the Angel Tree for Our Home Family Resource Center in coordination with Precious Blood Parish.

c. Men's Sodality (Jake Moeller) No updates

d. Bereavement (Nancy Luebke)
    i. Lynn and Andrea have transitioned well and communications has been good.

e. Finance (Alan Wolters) - no updates
    i. Sue gave finance update:

General Operating Account	$ 180,273.00
Maintenance Fund Account	$ 101,980.00
Fire Green Certificate	$ 2,092,174.00
Investment Savings Cincinnati	$ 358,929.00
Total	$2,773,356.00

f. Maintenance & Grounds (Kelly/Frank Evers)
    i. Work is being done at the St John Parish house to the bathroom which has some damage. I think St John Parish house is going to be used for

some of the fundraising campaigns, etc. so they are looking at the bathroom

ii. Snow Removal schedule has been distributed. We have 11 men that are assisting with this divided into 4 different groups to provide support.

g. Cemetery (Randy Wolters)
    i. From late August until mid-October the team met out at the cemetery on Monday nights and straightened out tombstones, repaired footers, leveled the grade on 2 more rows in section A and then planted grass.
    ii. A plaque was placed on both sides of the new cemetery entrance with a QR code to scan to help find plot locations of grave sites – big thanks to Trent Huelsman and Jesse Ranly for help with that.
    iii. We were hoping to pour a few more footers this year, but with the wet Aug/Sept that did not happen this year.

h. Ladies Sodality (Katelyn Wolters)
    i. We hosted Sharon's retirement party at the end of August. We received a lot of good feedback on that.
    ii. We are hosting the Cookies with Santa event on Tuesday, December 15th at the Legion.
    iii. Our Winter Social event will be on Friday, January 15th.

3. New Business:
    a. Fall Parish Elections
        i. Welcome Janet Heitkamp to Parish Council.
        ii. Marcus Prenger is Men's Sodality VP
        iii. Jarren Griesdorn is Men's Sodality secretary
        iv. Jake Heitkamp is added to cemetery committee
    b. Election of Parish Council officers
        i. Trent Huelsman is secretary
        ii. Michelle Ashman is President
        iii. Doug Billerman is VP
    c. Rectory – electrical update
        i. Currently there is a temporary pole with wire running to basement. If building will be used in the short term for office space or storage this is unsafe and should be upgraded regardless of what future plans may hold.
    d. South parking lot use – parish council has been approached to use the south parking lot for a meeting place for a pilgrimage group. 20 cars will sit there for a short term of a few days.
    e. Unified Parish Council updates given by Michelle Ashman.
        i. Family Unity Discernment

1. Meeting for staff and UPC will be Jan. 16th
2. Reflect Synod public meeting to be held February 27th at the Knights Hall from 9:00 am-3:30 pm.

ii. Synod 2027 – looking for individuals (3 delegates) who would like to participate with a June thru September 2027 commitment.

4. Old Business:

   a. Fire/New church planning updates are listed on MCC website

   b. Fellowship Opportunities/Ministry Fair/QR Code on index card
      i. Possible fellowship opportunity to be held in Feb. 2027 – coffee and cookies in basement after mass
      ii. Ministry list needs reviewed to see if any ministry is missing.

5. Next Meeting – February 1st, 2027 in Precious Blood basement @ 7:00 pm

6. Closing Prayer- Hail Mary