St. John Parish Council Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2025

Attending: Gary, Bill, Michelle, Barb, Angie, Doug, Jenny, Liz, Sue

1. Opening Prayer – SJB Fire Prayer

2. Committee Reports
   a. CCD & Religious Education (Dana Kugel) No update
   b. CYO (Sara Mescher & Jen Meier)
      i. St. John's CYO kicked off the 2025-2026 year with 42 members.
      ii. CYO basketball season for both boys and girls teams began on Nov. 2nd.
      iii. This year St. Johns combined with the other Marion parishes. There are 3 boys teams (freshman/sophomore, juniors, seniors) and one girl team.
   c. Men's Sodality (Troy Homan)
      i. Jake Moeller will be president starting in January.
   d. Bereavement (Ann Everman)
      i. The Memorial Service was held on Nov. 4th.
      ii. There were 34 deaths in the Marion Catholic Community.
   e. Finance (Alan Wolters)
      i. The last meeting was held in August.
      ii. Collections were up 10% in FY24-25.
      iii. Jenna Boeckman joined the committee. Linda Bergman stepped down.
      iv. SJB church donated to the cemetery entrance sign (Oliver Huelsman's Eagle Scout project). The numbers are as follows: Donations received = $3,168.00, Paid Out = $4,169.03, Cost to Parish = $1,001.03.
      v. Sue read financial update:
      Cash & Investments

General Operating Account	$202,772.86	
Maintenance Fund Account	$ 77,047.04	
Investment Savings Cincinnati		$350,787.18
St. John Cemetery Operating		$ 39,180.55
Total		$669,787.63

   f. Maintenance & Grounds (Kelly/Frank Evers)
      i. Maintenance committee is supporting the snow removal for St John masses at Precious Blood this year.

ii. Moving the wooden entry door pieces from the church to the building across the street is happening on Saturday.

g. Cemetery (Randy Wolters)
   i. The Eagle Scout project by Oliver Huelsman for the Cemetery Entrance sign was completed and looks great!
   ii. We worked out in cemetery on Thursday nights thru early October straightening tombstones and working on footers. We had a good team out there and made good progress…and the grass came in good on the 3 rows we leveled out and planted grass.
   iii. With the weather changing we are pretty much done out there until spring.
   iv. We are planning a meeting in a few weeks to do some planning for next year.

h. Ladies Sodality (Katie Rosenbeck)
   i. We are hosting cookies with Santa on Tuesday, Dec. 9 at the Legion from 6:30-8:00 pm.

3. New Business:
   a. Fire Update
      i. Fr. Jeff Kemper to speak on a two-part sessions regarding Built on Living Stones on Nov. 25th and Dec. 9th at 7:00 pm at Precious Blood church.
      ii. Working on selecting an architect – announcement will be made soon
   b. Unified Parish Council meet this week 11/20
   c. PC officers
      i. Michelle Ashman will remain President. Doug Billerman will remain Vice-President. Liz Mescher will remain secretary.
   d. Snow removal schedule has been made at PC for SJB masses – there are 9 men on a 3 week rotation.
   e. Fellowship opportunities – had a discussion on having a gathering after 11:00 am mass for fellowship. Possible dates in February were noted. Refreshment ideas were discussed.
4. Old Business:
   a. Cemetery Entrance completed

5. Next Meeting – January 12, 2026 @ 7:30 pm in Precious Blood basement.
6. Closing Prayer- Hail Mary

Addendum to Meeting Minutes:

This addendum is to add the update for CCD & Religious Education Committee Report which was provided on November 18, 2025 as follows:

SJB - we have actively 367 students registered for CCD & Preschool.
- Preschool: 23 - classes started 11/09
- Kindergarten: 31
- 1st Graders: 35
- 2nd Graders: 26
- 3rd Graders: 36
- 4th Graders: 37
- 5th Graders: 21
- 6th Graders: 28
- 7th Graders: 21
- 8th Graders: 27
- 9th Graders: 18
- 10th Graders: 23
- 11th Graders: 20
- 12th Graders: 21

- 2nd Grade: Parent meeting and First Reconciliation Rehearsal is this upcoming Wednesday (11/19). Reconciliation is scheduled for 12/3.
- 3rd Grade: Visited the MS Shrine of Relics a few weeks back, as they are researching saints.
- 4th Grade: Had Server training for all the students at PB, to give them an experience to understand and engage with Nick on the responsibilities. Great turn out and a lot of new servers to add to the schedule.
- 7th Grade: Students selected their roles for the Live Way of the Cross. Visited the MS Spiritual Center to walk the stations and reflect on the upcoming activity.
- Confirmation Students: Working on their 40 Questions of Reflection, Visited the MS Shrine Relics with guest speaker Kathy Dirksen to talk about saints. 11/19 they will have class in the Commons, with their sponsor to complete the Sponsor

Engagement forms. This is new for us - We wanted to create an opportunity for the student and sponsor.

- Sophomores: Last week Jack Albers spoke to Brad's class about his spiritual journey. Students seemed to enjoy it! Still in need of a male catechist for 2nd semester. Amy Grieshop will lead all of them if needed. Working on guest speakers for some of the heavy topics, so we can split the males & females. More to come on this. Really could use strong guest speakers for the males.
- Juniors: Mitch has been leading most of the classes with guest speakers. Fr. Matt, Carolyn Stucke, Katie Knapke - have all been great. Before reconciliation, they all went to the Spiritual Center for their annual campfire and night of reflection. More guest speakers are scheduled for the second semester.
- Seniors: Last week Jim Keller came to speak to the class, great engagement!
- C.A.L.L. Ministries - Students have been bringing in donations for the Month of November. We've had great success with this - we will have lots of items to give to this organization.
- Nativity Play: Borrowing costumes from St. Augustine for this year. Nathan & Lucas Bertke are building a stable for the Nativity Play. Sign-up sheets for students and volunteers are out. We will also have a children's choir for this Christmas Eve mass, thanks to Erin Huelsman and Erica Colopy.
- Live Way of the Cross: Plan is to borrow costumes from Do Good. Nathan Bertke, Allison Bertke & Stephanie Fry will help lead this event.
- I'm working on a layout for a newsletter or social media structure to share what we are doing in CCD to the community and parents.
- CCD Schedule has been updated with the most current information. This has been shared out to the parents a few weeks ago.
- Youth Group: Attendance has been increasing over the months. Students seem to be enjoying it.