

St. John the Evangelist Parish

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - Minutes

Fr. Michael Williams – Pastor – ex officio
Myron McCormick – Finance – ex officio
Marie Bardswich – St. John's
Sue Quackenbush – St. John's
Barb Pineau – St. John's

Pamela Schofield-Adams – St. John's
James Murphy – St. John's
Sheila Lapierre – St. John's
Trudy Hinds – St. Bernardine's ABSENT

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, June 19th at 6pm in the Parish Hall.

PRAYER We prayed a decade of the Rosary for the needs of Parishioners who are sick or suffering in any way.

Following this, the PPC met to discuss the following pastoral issues:

OLD BUSINESS:

- (1) Building Issues: front stairs/LED lights
- (2) Membership/new members
- (3) Bishop's pastoral visit: **January 26-February 2, 2025**

NEW BUSINESS:

ONGOING BUSINESS:

- (4) Social Concerns, Worship, Future Planning, Youth, Pastoral Care, Faith Formation & Spirituality
- (5) Parish Financial Update

Re: (1) All the fluorescent lights in both Churches, including the office and rectory, have been changed to LEDs, at no cost to either Parish. We will change the other bulbs on our own gradually, as the old ones burn out. We will rent scaffolding in the Fall to change all the bulbs in the Sanctuary area of St. John's.

The last word received from Ivon Chaumont was from June 13th. He indicated there is only 1 contractor interested in the job of refurbishing/installing railing on the front stairs, and he is still waiting for a quote. Once received, Fr. Michael will forward that information to the PPC members for a discussion and decision. We have other options for fixing the cement, using our 'in house' resources, but we'll wait for the quote before making any further decisions.

Re: (2) Despite our best efforts to invite new members, there has not been any interest expressed to date. Since the terms of Marie and Sue don't expire until this Fall, we will wait to see if there are any new members between now and then. If not, we will discuss at our next meeting how to proceed. We invited Marie and Sue to consider, over the summer, the possibility of continuing for another term.

Re: (3) Bishop Thomas Dowd will be present in our 2 Parishes for a pastoral visit between **January 26 - February 2, 2025**. Since we will have 2 PPC meetings (October and December) between now and then, we don't need to do any detailed planning at this point. We will, however, make sure our 2nd Annual Parish Appreciation Dinner is booked for when he is here, and will also ensure we have a PPC meeting scheduled for that time period so that he can attend.

Re: (4) Under **Youth**, Fr. Michael reported that he has booked a National Evangelization Team (NET) retreat for the grade 6 students at St. John the Evangelist School for Friday, October 4th. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered in our Parish in late January to all Catholics who are 11 years of age or older this year, and so the theme of the NET retreat will be "Confirmation". Under **Social Concerns and Future Planning**, it was decided to keep the Sunday, November 3rd date for a parish dinner (possibly pot luck). We will finalize the plans for that dinner at our October meeting. We also discussed the upcoming summer fundraiser for the Garson Foodbank on July 27th. Barb and Pamela are involved in this event and will once again donate \$200 in gift certificates as a draw prize for raffle tickets. In the Fall, while still encouraging food donations, we will continue to ask for donations of various toiletry items that the Foodbank is unable to purchase for their clients. Even though the Foodbank will be closed for a month this summer, parishioners are still able to bring their donations of non-perishable food items to the Church, as we have the space to store them until the Foodbank reopens.

Re: (5) Myron distributed a spreadsheet showing the financial results to the end of May. We are essentially balanced to our budget. There were no issues of concern.

The meeting ended with a prayer at 7:00pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, October 16th at 6pm in the Parish Hall.