

Meeting Minutes-St. John the Baptist Parish Pastoral Council - January 29, 2024

Present: Father Alan Wierzba (Pastor), Nancy Hackel (Evangelization Coordinator), Bonnie Nenstiel, Amy Thuot, Elizabeth King, Alex Radtke (Seminarist assisting at the parish)

Excused: Patty Myszka, Dave Bielmeier, and Jack Knetter

1. The meeting opened with a prayer led by Father Alan, followed by the recitation of the parish mission statement.
2. Minutes from October 23, 2023 were revised with two spelling corrections of names, Amy Thuot and Dorrie Martyn. Elizabeth King motioned to approve with the correction of name spellings and was seconded by Amy. The motion passed.
3. Father Alan shared that it was the first day of Catholic Schools Week today and a number of events are planned for the week. An Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30th. Father Alan also shared that the school is looking into offering a Summer Program in 2024 for 10 weeks. Father Alan said that a minimum of 11 full-time students need to be registered in order to make it financially viable and this year only St. John students and their siblings would be invited to attend in order to try it. Jenna Martin would be the coordinator.
4. Discussion on the Parish celebrating 125 years in 2025. In the last week of July 2024, the parish will offer families to come in for a parish pictorial. Family pictures will be ready in time for Christmas. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7th at 4:15 pm. All committee members are invited to the meeting.
5. The parish will have its annual Spring Raffle. Nancy updated the committee that all sellers have been notified and envelopes are ready to go out on the 14th of February with the drawing on Sunday, March 24, 2024. An invitation was extended to committee members if anyone would like to help with the fundraiser next year.
6. Matthew Szymanski will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on June 1, 2024 with a celebration at the parish on Sunday, June 2, 2024. There is a probability of having a later Mass so it coincides with the meal.
7. Father Alan asked the committee what they would like to see for Lenten devotionals at St. John's. Elizabeth suggested that families share at the end of Mass some of their traditions they do during Lent. Another possibility is if families are not comfortable speaking in front of a group to have them write it up and put it in the bulletin.
Discussion on the best day to offer Stations of the Cross and the committee felt that Mondays after Adoration at 5:30 pm was the best time for the parish.
Father Alan will hear confessions on Saturdays at 9:30 am until finished beginning February 24th until Holy Saturday.

8. Elizabeth shared that she received so much by being given the opportunity to visit shut-ins in December and would like to do it again if needed. Both Bonnie and Elizabeth agreed that they are very fortunate to visit people because they receive a lot from the visits. They shared that people are happy with Dorrie visiting shut-ins from both parishes. Amy asked how many posts should be made on Facebook. It was discussed that there are now a couple a day with a weekly outline. Nancy shared that she has heard much positive feedback with the different Lenten Activities being offered. The committee suggested that a Lenten Devotional Calendar go out in the bulletin and at fish fries.

Next Meeting Date: April 29, 2024 6:00 pm

Meeting adjourned with a blessing at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Hackel