



Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

Date: March 10, 2026

Pastors: Fr. Jean Philippe Lokpo. Fr. Jose Manuel Ortiz,

PPC Members: Shelly Benson, Cat Wolfe, Rob Sullivan, Pat Trafton, Krista Gilva, Jim Burke, Tim Schmitt, Alex Lule-Rivera, Elia Vergil, Carolina Perez Renteria, Sara Delva

Absent: Charles Loiseau, Tom Lenz, Matt Brands, Fr Dawit Wubishet Teklewold

Topic	Notes/Summary
Welcome, Opening Prayer	Meeting started at 7:05pm and Rob led us in a prayer
Review of Agenda/ Approve minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The February meeting minutes were approved. Shelley gave a reflection and reviewed the agenda
School Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle school science teacher is a finalist for the Golden Apple Award. At least 3 students are going to the state science fair. School is fully staffed and enrollment has increased slightly since the beginning of the year All but 4 students are returning for next year Annual fund is currently 40% to goal and is already higher than last year's total Hosting summer camp for this year, run by another org Tuition will increase by 5% as it has over the last few years Joined the Evanston Chamber of Commerce Newly designed website is getting increased traffic 2nd year in a row with an A+ rating on Niche (school rating program) Standardized testing results are higher than the Arch, District 65 and State Deficit is increased from FY24, but it reflects more accurate budgeting unlike in previous years. The increases were not unexpected. They will use some of the endowment to help offset the costs. They are working with the Arch to address. Working to cut the budget through staffing reductions (mostly through attrition and moving some roles which do not carry full time workloads to part time). Arch is providing guidance. The Rebuilding plan is a 5-year process – we are in year 3. Next year will be about increasing enrollment and implementing the financial plan
Pastor's Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital Campaign – committee meetings have started and they are working on the study phase to gather info to choose if we will do the standard campaign or increased campaign.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we want to do everything that's recommended in the architectural study, we will need \$10M. The team is looking to break the recommendations into 2 phases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Phase 1: items that can be paid for with the capital campaign ○ Phase 2: items for long term planning • We are a little behind where we should be to start the capital campaign, so the committee is working really quickly to get things ready.
Leadership Retreat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme: Faith, Hope and Love – three sessions over the course of the day ending with a mass • Discussed setup and clean-up needs from the PPC
Latino Advisory Committee Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, there was a Spanish liturgical training attended by about 65 people (coordinators and ministers). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As part of the event, everyone was given time to fill out the DMI. ○ Fr Jose reviewed the new model of service for the community and there was a feeling for hope among most of the attendees. ○ The focus was on the importance of the work they do and the importance of unity across the community. • The Committee has a preferred candidate for the new Spanish Liturgical Coordinator who Fr JP is considering. • Ministers are starting to serve across both Spanish masses. • Looking at a picnic/outing in June for the whole community.
Focus Groups for assessing campus space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback and next steps – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 focus group meetings are scheduled with leaders to gather information about how facilities are used and what is working/not working ○ The team is working on a draft report compiling all the info they have gathered ○ Meeting scheduled for 3/11 to start envisioning process for what can be considered for the capital campaign • Ultimately, they will identify short term wins and a long-term plan • Priority will also be to choose short term plans that can support long term goals for the capital campaign
Discipleship Maker Index (DMI)/Parish Measurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress to date – 185 surveys • Tom has done a lot of reach out to various ministries around the Parish. • Additional outreach needed – PPC members will spread the word • Looking to target occasional church goers as well as young people
Other Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPC member recruitment: at least 2 applications to date, deadline has been extended and more outreach is needed – Shelley will share past applicants so we can explore if there is potential interest there. • PPC would like a representative from D&E team to report on the Alpha pilot • Adult Faith Formation team is applying for a \$10k grant to support Advent, Lent and Easter season parish wide programs • Rob Sullivan updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DMI went out to the parent community and will also go out via room parents

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Director Lifelong Faith Formation interviews begin this week – 2 strong candidates so far○ Alex Roman will be helping with the Soup Kitchen ministry with Peg Hanrahan (Interfaith Action). First event is Fri 3/13. Young people prepare meals in Oldershaw Hall, then the meals are served on the following Monday.● Liturgical Ministers workshop is scheduled for June 27th at St Nick's in the church. It will be an all-day event focused on what it means to be a liturgical minister. We have around 300 ministers. The Office for Divine Worship's Tom Williamson will be the facilitator with a bi-lingual co-facilitator. Goal is to have 150 people.● Still working on getting an assessment for improvements to the sound system in the church at St Nick's.
Adjourn	Tim led us in a closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:49p