



**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Notes**

**Date:** December 9, 2025

**Pastors:** Fr. Jose Manuel Ortiz, Fr Dawit Wubishet Teklewold

**PPC Members:** Shelly Benson, Cat Wolfe, Rob Sullivan, Pat Trafton, Krista Gilva, Sara Delva, Tom Lenz, Jim Burke, Charles Loiseau. Tim Schmitt, Alex Lule-Rivera, Carolina Perez Renteria,

**Absent:** Matt Brands, Elia Vergil, Fr. Jean Philippe Lokpo

Topic	Notes/Summary
Welcome, Opening Prayer	Meeting started at 7:04pm and Jim led us in a prayer
Review of Agenda/ Approve minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom gave a reflection on Advent</li> <li>• The October meeting minutes were approved.</li> <li>• Shelley reviewed the agenda</li> </ul>
	<p>Katie Dorner and Maria Senecal, Co-Chairs of the Adult Faith Formation PPP priority spoke about the recent survey results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About 100 respondents, mostly “older adults”</li> <li>• Insights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ People are looking for: spiritual depth, community, preaching/teaching, healing &amp; dialogue, justice &amp; inclusion, life stage support</li> <li>○ Requests for speaker series was a common theme (the team is using Arch resources to investigate potential speakers)</li> <li>○ There is interest in Sunday afternoon retreat times; maybe expanding adoration</li> <li>○ Awareness is a challenge – there are some things already happening but there is an opportunity to improve how the messages get out to the parish</li> <li>○ Most people are looking for one off events and/or weekday evenings as well as on-line offerings</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Team is looking at 3 different things <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Encounters – events, speakers, missions, etc.</li> <li>○ Deepening – scripture study, small group sharing,</li> <li>○ Contemplative Formation – vespers, retreats, prayer workshops</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recommendations coming out of the results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Look at hybrid scheduling and cross campus events</li> <li>○ It’s important to reach out to young adults. Team recommends assigning a staff member to focus on the cohort and explore introducing a Sunday evening mass/social gathering</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Have the staff member who is working on Faith Formation be separate from the person doing sacramental prep</li> <li>○ Year-round faith sharing – provides an opportunity to bring new people in – ensure the opportunities are clearly outlined on the website with details on how to join – create a dedicated Faith Formation webpage</li> <li>● The team is growing but also needs more people who have leadership skills to help manage events</li> <li>● They are looking into co-sponsoring events with existing groups (i.e. Knights of Columbus, Somos Uno, etc.)</li> <li>● Budget can be made available for a good speaker</li> </ul>
<p>Pastor's Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fr JP will be away for 5 weeks in January and early February in Togo – Fr Jose will be interim Pastor, but Fr JP will be available if needed</li> <li>● Edgar Vega was instated and will begin to assist the Deacons in the coming weeks</li> <li>● Yolanda will be retiring at the end of the year, and Alex will take on the admin role assisting Art and Fr JP</li> <li>● Youth Fair Formation Director update: 3 candidates are going to be given an initial screening interview, but the team is still looking for more leads. They are looking at widening the reach,</li> <li>● October mass count: 10:30a at St Nick's is down but 10a at St Mary is up. There will be another count in March, after which, if the trend at the 10:30am continues, the PPC will be asked to do some investigative work. 12:30p mass is down as well.</li> </ul>
<p>PPC Succession Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Executive team is working on a Draft communication and nomination plan &amp; timeline for bringing on new members, with the goal of having them join the May meeting</li> <li>● PPC was asked to begin to think of good people to be council members</li> </ul>
<p>Parish Pastoral Plan Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assessing Progress on PPP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Good progress is happening with some teams (Stewardship, CAB) and other teams are having challenges (mostly around volunteers to continue the work)</li> <li>○ PPC Liaisons will reach out to the chairs for their teams with a series of questions to get a feel for what is happening</li> <li>○ In the January PPC meeting, we will review the feedback and workshop possible solutions to address needs</li> <li>○ At the January Quarterly PPP meeting, we can present those solutions to the team Chairs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Lenten Leadership Retreat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Looking to do something similar to the retreat the PPC organized last year.</li> <li>● Possible dates 2/28 or 3/21.</li> <li>● Tom, Shelley, Tim and Pat will get started on planning.</li> <li>● Will look at the same venue in Wilmette and the timeframe will be the same as well (8a-3p ish)</li> </ul>
<p>Latino Advisory Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nov 30 meeting recap: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Three new members have joined so the team totals 8 (men &amp; women from both masses)</li> <li>○ They hosted Hospitality at both masses on 11/30 with a goal to recruit a new coordinator, but it ended up being more of a</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>community building event – Fr Jose and Fr JP were both there. People were grateful for the effort. Lots of good conversations were had – Carolina is meeting with Yvonne in January to set up some more hospitality opportunities for the Spanish community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next meeting is 12/15 and the list of candidates for the new Coordinators will be presented.</li> </ul>
Other Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed other ministries or PPP teams to hear from in 2026: St Vincent DePaul, Buildings &amp; Grounds, Fundraising teams, EWC, Quilters</li> </ul>
Adjourn	Fr Dawit led us in a closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:40p