



Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

Date: February 11, 2025

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

PPC Members: Cat Wolfe, Pat Trafton, Krista Gilva, Sara Delva, Charles Loiseau, Rob Sullivan, Cliff Barber, Matt Brands, Alex Lule-Rivera, Tim Schmitt, Elia Vergil

Absent: Tom Lenz, Jim Burke, Shelley Benson

Topic	Notes/Summary
Welcome, Opening Prayer	<p>Meeting started at 7:02pm</p> <p>Cliff led us in a prayer</p>
Review of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new PPC members were introduced, Tim Schmitt (representing St Mary's) and Elia Vergil (representing the Hispanic community). The PPC members introduced themselves and everyone shared a little about what is on their mind currently. • The January meeting minutes were approved.
Pastor's Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently ICE showed up at St Ida's, so this is a common concern in area parishes. Their teams immediately started filming which prompted the ICE agents to leave, this will be a strategy we will share with our parishioners. • The recent session with an Immigration Lawyer was well attended with about 30 people from both the Latino community and members of the Peace & Justice committee. • Churches are no longer safe spaces, so some subcommittees have been formed around the issue. Those are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus Safety: who is working on a process for handling the situation if ICE were to show up at church. They are developing materials and working with the St Mary, St Nick, and Hispanic Usher teams. Fr. JP will also be working with the Haitian community for their monthly mass. The Usher teams have been meeting and are developing plans such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limiting entrance points once masses have started in order to more easily intercept and manage the situation if ICE were to arrive. • Scheduling Anglo Ushers at the Spanish masses to be at the doors

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid Response team: who is working on what to do if parents are arrested • Public Voice team: this will be Fr Bob, Fr JP and Mary Signatur. At the moment, we are choosing not to be vocal so as not to draw too much attention and invite trouble but will develop strategies for speaking out as needed • Music Director Search: Of the 14+ candidates, 3 were given “auditions” with the choir. Feedback has been collected, and the team will be meeting this week to review and determine if an offer can be extended. • Inter-Faith Action of Evanston: Charlotte Kovacs has been our Parish Liaison but is stepping down. Fr. JP asked the PPC to send him any suggestions for parishioners to replace her.
<p>Parish Pastoral Plan Workshop V</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our fifth workshop was last Saturday and was well attended with good representation from each Priority group. Teams felt good about the work and are in ready for the next stage. • The next step will be for each team to write up their strategies and action plans for sharing with the parish, Fr. JP, and the PPC/PFC. Tom, Shelley and Cat will be working with the teams to edit those documents and Alex will manage translation. • The goal is to have the plans finished by March 1st so they can be shared with the Latino leaders in early March and the larger parish at the end of the month. • Cliff brought up a concern about ensuring that, as we move into the implementation phase of the plan, groups who are tasked to put the strategies into action take care not to hinder or significantly alter the intention of the strategies as a lot of discernment went into the work of creating the plans. Some of the suggestions to avoid this possibility were discussed, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the action plan and the background behind the plan is well communicated to implementation teams • Prepare the teams in advance to be open and to trust the work done by the PPP committees
<p>Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Winter Parish party team is ready for the event on Saturday, over 300 tickets have been sold, and we have a good number of volunteers lined up. • Shelley will share more details about the leadership retreat on March 15 as the plan comes together. Fr. Mark Scalese will be leading and is working on the program for us. • The Evangelization and Discipleship team is looking at bringing the Alpha program to SJXXIII. Queen of the Apostles is going to be running the program and some of our team will be participating in order to see how it can work here. Queen of the Apostles is similar in size and demographics to our parish, so it will be a good learning experience. There is an introductory evening “Taste of Alpha” on 2/18 from 6-8p, all PPC members were invited to join and learn more about the program. • Fr. JP was asked if there is any plan to start livestreaming masses at St Mary. An estimate had been obtained, and it was rather expensive because we would need to add WIFI to the church building. There

	<p>was some discussion about the value of having streaming capabilities available at St Mary for when there are parish wide events in the church such as the Martin Luther King Day mass and any Holy Days. There was a suggestion of utilizing a hot spot for the occasions when we would want to livestream vs. installing WIFI. Tim volunteered to investigate it and will connect with Faith on next steps.</p>
Adjourn	<p>Matt let us in a closing prayer.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 8:20p</p>