



**ST. JOHN XXIII**  
PARISH

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

**Date:** April 8, 2025

**Pastors:** Fr. Jean Philippe Lokpo

**PPC Members:** Cat Wolfe, Krista Gilva, Sara Delva, Rob Sullivan, Matt Brands, Tim Schmitt, Tom Lenz, Shelley Benson, Jim Burke, Alex Lule-Rivera

**On Zoom:** Carolina Perez Renteria

**Absent:** Cliff Barber, Charles Loiseau, Pat Trafton, Fr. Jose Manuel Ortiz, Elia Vergil

Topic	Notes/Summary
Welcome, Opening Prayer	Meeting started at 7:02pm and Shelley led us in a prayer
Review of Agenda/Reflection/ Approve minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shelley shared a reflection and reviewed the agenda.</li> <li>• The March meeting minutes were approved.</li> </ul>
Introduction of new Council Member	New member, Carolina Renteria was introduced and the PPC introduced themselves to her.
Pastor's Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff updates:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Music Director has been hired and will start on May 5th.</li> <li>○ Our new Maintenance team member, Mike Borman, has already started. Mike is a long time Parishioner.</li> <li>○ A Pastoral Care Associate position, as recommended by one of the PPP Steering teams, has been worked into the budget. The role would oversee the St. Stephen, Bereavement and Ministers of Care ministries and may also supervise the Young Adult ministry as well. Fr. has someone in mind and is waiting for their decision about taking the role. If they don't accept the position, there will be a formal search.</li> <li>○ Staff Liaisons for PPP Steering Teams: Stewardship is Art; Liturgy is Dianne; Adult Faith Formation and Catechetical Advisory Board are Karie; Youth Engagement is Alex; Unity is Wendy; Evangelization is Karie &amp; Juanita, possibly with Yolanda as well</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Peg Hanrahan will be our new representative to Inter Faith Action Evanston</li> <li>• Archdiocese Capital Campaign update:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are specific projects the PFC has in mind to set as the goal for the funds that would come back to the parish.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fr. JP is looking to put together a team to drive the campaign – inclusive of at least one member from the PPC, PFC &amp; Buildings &amp; Grounds.</li> <li>○ The Arch will start working with us in May of next year, but Fr. would like for us to be more proactive in our prep.</li> <li>● The budget for next year is almost ready. The PFC is projecting a deficit of \$92k for next year, which is pacing well to make the 3-year goal of a balanced budget. We are going to increase the sacramental fees by 6% in order to be more in line with area parishes.</li> <li>● Fr. will be meeting with the new Bishop the week after Easter to give the annual update for the parish. Shelley &amp; Tom are helping to prepare a review which will include info from the office and school. The presentation will highlight what is going well, our challenges, and where we can use help from the Bishop.</li> <li>● Recently, a legacy St Mary Parishioner gave a gift of \$50k in honor of her late husband and targeted the funds to the PPP which will be used over the next two years to help fund the implementation. In addition, there will be a bench placed in the St Mary garden with a plaque as well as a tree planted in the St Nick’s garden.</li> <li>● The new Bishop appointment does not affect the date for confirmation.</li> </ul>
Fr. Jean-Philippe’s Immigration Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fr. JP and Fr. Jose’s R1 visas are nearing the end of their 5-year term, and they have both applied for permanent resident status, but the applications are still being processed.</li> <li>● If their visas expire before the permanent resident (Green Card) status comes through, they will have to leave for one year (and get another R1 visa) or until the permanent resident status comes through.</li> <li>● Fr. JP’s visa expires in October and Fr. Jose’s in July.</li> <li>● The Comboni Provincial is looking for two priests to serve as interim pastor &amp; associate and hopes to have those names by May when the Combonis come to Chicago for meetings.</li> <li>● Fr.JP has shared this news with the PFC and the Staff. The PPC suggested publishing a short letter to the Parish as well.</li> <li>● Concern was shared about coverage for the Haitian mass. Before Fr. JP came, the Haitian community had to find their own priest and raised funds to any pay fees, which were not funded by the parish. Fr. is working to see if he can make arrangements before he leaves so the community will be taken care of.</li> </ul>
Parish Pastoral Plan Information Session Debrief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attendance was about 60, mostly legacy St Nick’s parishioners.</li> <li>● Overall feedback was that the speakers did well – they were passionate and clear in their presentations. We have not received a lot of comment cards or web comments but those who were there were engaged and seemed to be ready to help implement plans.</li> <li>● Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ May 10 PPP workshop in the school cafeteria, where the teams will work on blocking out actions and on budget needs. We will also confirm staff support (see update above) and work on creating structures for teams who do not have a standing structure.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Roll out plans will be discussed at the May PPC meeting.</li> <li>○ The PPC liaisons will continue to be ongoing contacts with the Steering teams.</li> </ul>
Latino Leadership and Listening Sessions Recap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Was held on April 5<sup>th</sup> with about 40 Latino leaders.</li> <li>● Discussion focused on how to build a greater sense of unity within the community and how to bring the community into larger parish plans.</li> <li>● Attendees were broken out into 3 groups and worked through a set of questions with a notetaker for each group.</li> <li>● The comments are being translated and will be reviewed in a meeting next week.</li> <li>● The notes will be shared with the PPC when they are translated.</li> </ul>
Comprehensive Review of Campus Facilities Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The review team is made up of 8-10 people, many from Buildings &amp; Grounds.</li> <li>● First phase is info gathering and obtaining all the floor plans/drawings for all buildings. This will also include an inventory of what is in each building/room and how facilities are being used.</li> <li>● Second phase will be about needs analysis/problem identification</li> <li>● Third phase will be recommendations and identifying items for the capital campaign.</li> <li>● The team will share the plan with the parish in May and will explain the process.</li> <li>● Fr is working with the archdiocese on revising the lease for the YMCA rental of the St. Mary school building. They are working on a rent increase as it has not been raised in several years. The archdiocese is working on the negotiations. It will be a 5-year lease.</li> </ul>
Other Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Executive Team is working with Fr. on the following for discussion at the May PPC meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposed succession plan for the 2023 PPC members</li> <li>○ Proposed amendment to the PPC charter</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The Rummage Sale team is starting their meetings, and the sale will be on June 21st. They look at this event as a community outreach opportunity as it draws lots of people from around the area and would be open to working with the Evangelization team if they would like to put together any messaging to guests.</li> </ul>
Adjourn	<p>Alex led us in a closing prayer.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 8:52p</p>