

ST. JEROME PASTORAL COUNCIL
MAY 29, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Jackson at 7:01pm.

Members present: Chairman Dan Jackson, Vice Chairman John Hopkins, Paul Baumgartner, Angee Clark-Hellon, Jan Gremaud, Kelly Houston, Fr. Kevin Laughery, Tom Mines, Gail Wolff

Members absent: Sr. Linda Mary De Lonais, Brenda Neumann, Joel Petry, Betsy Weinell

Opening Prayer was offered by Dan Jackson.

No additions or corrections to the May 1 Minutes. Motion was made by Angee Clark-Hellon and seconded by John Hopkins to accept the Minutes as presented; motion carried. Minutes approved.

Monthly Reports

Pastor: Fr. Kevin discussed some difficulties in scheduling the weekend Co-op program. Now there is a priest in the Diocese of Superior, Wisconsin; but that priest needs a little more time as the Bishop there has assigned him to a new parish and must coordinate with them. After June 1, Fr. Kevin is looking forward to his required every-other-year retreat at Sacre Coeur Retreat House in the Diocese of Peoria.

Written Monthly Reports: No questions on the monthly reports submitted for Bookkeeper, Faith Formation, Admin Office Support, Youth Ministry. Kelly stated that she submitted no report as the next school board meeting that she will attend will be June; and that will be the last meeting with those who will be stepping down. Next official meeting will be in August.

Dan asked about a change in Betsy's hours and title. Betsy has reduced her weekly work hours to 20 and will be referred to more simply as "Parish Staff;" there is no significant change to her role nor her commitment to the parish. She is still available during parish office hours as she always has been.

Old Business

Centennial Campaign: There was a meeting on Friday, May 23, and Fr. Kevin will be preparing a report.

2025 Fellowship Calendar: Angee asked for help and for some \$2-\$3 kid's and adult prizes for the parish family Bingo Sunday afternoon, June 8. Dan and John had some items to offer. Angee and Gail are accumulating snacks, prizes and supplies. Angee determined that the St. Joseph's Hall tables will be set up and the walls down until Vacation Bible School in July. Also, Angee reminded the Council members that they will be needed to help with food, etc., for the September 28 Mass on the Grass. Jan reported that the Rummage Sale was a success, but advised that people need to be asked personally to volunteer. Waiting for people to sign up doesn't always work.

Welcoming Committee: Gail reported that we have three new households in the parish and we need to follow up with them since her letter and welcome packet have just gone out. Angee is asking for younger people to reach out to new families in addition to St. Ann's members who have been involved in the past. John agreed that we need a good mix of our parishioners. A notice requesting volunteers has been posted in FLOCKNOTES and in the Bulletin.

Gail mentioned that the lady in Troy with low vision and low hearing, who lives alone, needs more visitors. Gail visits her once a week and helps her with various projects. Angee asked that this opportunity be presented again at the next St. Ann's meeting along with a list of needs that volunteers can fill during a visit.

Grief Ministry: No further reports.

New Business

2025-2026 Meeting Schedule: The Pastoral Council discussed the meeting schedule for 2025-2026 and revised some dates that conflicted with a holiday.

Election of 2025-26 Officers: Dan asked for volunteers to assume the responsibilities of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Recorder for the coming year. Dan, John and Gail, respectively, volunteered to take another term. The nominations will be voted upon in July.

Father McGivney Presentation: Dan discussed his idea to invite a school board rep to a Pastoral Council meeting to best connect us to Fr. McGivney High School. He is obtaining the correct contact information.

Pulse of the Parish: Jan reported that the Rummage Sale went really well. She thanked Fr. Kevin for praying over them before the sale. Unfortunately, one of our larger-value priced items was taken by someone early in the sale.

Evangelization opportunities: Jan talked about a Lutheran lady at the Rummage Sale (who used to be Catholic) mentioning to her how friendly everyone was and that perhaps she should come back to Catholicism. Jan and Gail told the Council about a teenager who showed up on his bike at the Rummage Sale late Friday and, while there making a purchase, asked us questions about our church. The next day on Saturday when Gail arrived at Mass to distribute cookies, this same young man was sitting in the Narthex looking at a Welcome packet and asked her more questions about holy water, rosaries, what was happening during the Mass, the meaning of the lighted candles and the baptismal font. After their discussion, he rode off on his bike with a Welcome packet, a rosary and cookies for his family. These were unique opportunities for evangelization and hospitality.

There being no further business, Dan offered the closing Prayer; and the meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.

Due to conflicts with 4th of July events, the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 7:00pm, Wayland office.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Wolff, Recorder