

Pastoral Council  
Summary Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2025

**In Attendance:** Fr. James, Jerry Biegler, Deacon Juan Gonzalez, Lani Gore, Marilyn Johnston, Mike Low, Chris Smith, Russ Spencer, Agustin Vizcarra, Deacon Ed Winklebauer

**Excused:** Fr. Augustine, Luis Acosta, Jamie Bescak, Pam Boggs

6:35 pm Meeting called to order

Opening reflection- Chris-Pope Francis has introduced this as a Jubilee Year with the theme of 'Hope does not disappoint'. This was followed by the Jubilee Prayer.

Roll call verified a quorum.

November meeting minutes were approved by Chris, seconded by Lani and accepted unanimously.

**Welcome to new council attendees:** Council members briefly introduced themselves. Deacon JC, as he prefers to be called, has been a Deacon for 3 years. He asked for and was granted a transfer from Holy Cross Parish to St. Benedict because he lives very close to St. Benedict. Agustin Vizcarra is our new Parish Manager; he is married with 2 sons. Fr. James welcomed them both. Deacon JC will be a great assistance with our Hispanic Community and the Spanish Mass. Agustin will be sharing some of the Parish Report with the Council.

## **MINISTRY REPORTS**

Events – Lani

- December 3rd – Christmas Choir Concert and Cookie Exchange; well attended
- December 7<sup>th</sup> – Kendra Scott instore and online fundraiser made \$391
- December 15<sup>th</sup> - Panera Dine Out Fundraiser made \$170.06
- January 5<sup>th</sup> Welcome Sunday-only 3 Council members attended. Lani questioned how to get more council members participating in this and other Parish events. Discussion followed on this with some suggestions. Fr. has asked Lani to arrange a meeting with Karen, Eamonn, Maryola for a brainstorming session on this item.
- January 20<sup>th</sup> –Anniversary Mass with Bishop Olmsted; reception following Mass
- January 24<sup>th</sup>- in person Bingo Raffle. We need volunteers and donations. Fr. James noted that part of the new Strategic Plan is to increase the number of volunteers in each ministry-the plan will be reviewed shortly.
- We are starting to prepare for the Parish Picnic in February, Rummage Sale in March, Volunteer Appreciation dinner in May, and the Annual Gala in May.

### Knights of Columbus – Mike

- Special Christmas Donation Programs
  1. Coats for Kids-new coats delivered to the De Colores community that serves families fleeing domestic violence.
  2. Adopt-a-Family SVdP program sponsored a family of 8 with gifts and funds for Christmas dinner
  3. 100 KofC Nativity Coloring Books were ordered for kids in Liturgy of the Word with Children and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
  4. Knights assisted in set-up and outside lighting for the Staff/Teachers' Christmas Party at the rectory
  5. 12/29-01/05 Executed set-up, take-down and other services for Family Promise.
- Our Fr. Bob Binta Council is hosting the KofC State Convention on May 2-4, 2025 at Wildhorse Pass. They may need some pastoral support and perhaps Adoration time.
- Information on the annual Free Throw Contest will be forthcoming
- Upcoming Events: 2025 include 1/9 Council meeting; Parish Blood Drives-1/19, 5/18 and 9/21; 2/8 Parish Valentine's Dance; Golf Tourney 3/29

### Building/Facilities Update –Deacon Ed

- He and Frank are working on the Plaque and Tree to be up by the Anniversary Dedication Mass
- Work on the speakers continues; very expensive items.

### **PASTOR'S REPORT** – Fr. James

- Thank you to everyone for all their help in the historic move into our new Church and all throughout the Holy Days.
- Thank you to Lani for all she does with all the events of the parish.
- Deacon Ed and Frank have installed a window in the door in the priest's sacristy.
- SVdP is very happy with their new room; clients can drive up outside and be served.
- Gift Shop opened 12/15/24
- Press Release about the Senior Living Facility noted beginning construction in April, 2025. Lani will ask them to be a major supporter of the Gala.
- Annexes 3 and 4 are available for meetings.
- Bishop Olmsted will be celebrating the Anniversary Dedication Mass at 6:30pm on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Following Mass will be the dedication of the plaque.
- The Rummage Sale and Family Promise were both scheduling for the same days in the MPR. In this case, the parish takes precedence; Family Promise may be held in Annex 4 as it has in the past.
- Deacon Companik's ordination will be here in June. Please come with suggestions for a parish gift for him at our next meeting.
- Spanish Mass and Spanish Ministries – After the request from Deacon JC to serve our parish and his approval by the Bishop, we are ready to have a weekly Mass in Spanish

on Sundays. We need to start recruiting sacristans, lectors, EMHCs, choir members, etc- Deacon JC will preach the homily. We have Spanish Mass books. Possible dates to have the first Spanish Mass are January 26<sup>th</sup> or February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Auxiliary Bishop Nevares was suggested as celebrant; Fr. will check with him availability.

- Consecration of the Parish will be discussed at the Liturgy meeting.
- Agustin will now be part of the Pastoral Council; he and Fr. James will split the Pastor's/Parish Report.
- Deacon Ed noted that Fr. James is anticipating some time off. With the Spanish Mass starting, Fr. James has requested Fr. Augustin to learn Spanish.
- Volunteer Appreciation Night will be in April or May, after Easter.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Lani asked if all items were fulfilled on the Wish List? About half the requests were filled.
- Mike knows the Provincial Superior of the Order of the Holy Cross who will be visiting the Andre House. It's too late now, but perhaps in the future, if he is visiting, we could get him as a speaker for the parish. Fr. James is trying to get 3 or 4 speakers a years and would put the Superior on the list.

**CLOSING PRAYER** – Lani reminded us of the 6 sites on a local pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year. We concluded with prayers for the people in California affected by the fires.

Next meeting is February 5, 2025  
Meeting closed at 8:04pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Johnston, Secretary