

Pastoral Council
Summary Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2025

In Attendance: Fr. Manasseh, Luis Acosta, Jamie Bescak, Jerry Biegler, Pam Boggs, Keith Call, Deacon JC Gonzales, Lani Gore, Marilyn Johnston, Mike Low, Lisa Majchrzak, Chris Smith, Carolina Venot, Deacon Ed Winklebauer **Guests:** Greg Bedell, Jack Kolopanis

6:31pm Pam called the meeting to order

Opening Prayer was led by Deacon JC

Roll call verified a quorum

September 2025 meeting minutes were approved by Lani and seconded by Jerry. Minutes were approved unanimously.

PORTERS OF ST. JOSEPH – Greg and Jack were presenters

- Porters' Ministry started in May of 2024 with 5 members. We will now have 21 Porters in this ministry, We hold training sessions quarterly.
- 3 Porters are needed per Mass, 4 is preferable. We need more Porters in order to fully cover the 11am, 1pm, and 5pm Sunday Masses.
- When asked if they have any safety recommendations? They noted the need to cover the clear glass in doors and windows with a bullet-proof film.
- A Porter will join the Pastoral Council subcommittee to plan for further safety recommendations. Greg strongly suggested hiring someone to do a high-level safety assessment for the church.
- How can the Pastoral Council help their Ministry?
 1. Invite men to join the Porters.
 2. The Porters need 3 more radio/walkie talkies.
 3. Jamie will provide the teachers' names who do grant writing that might fund more education for the Porters.
- Carolina asked about Porters at the 1pm Spanish Mass. The Diocese is providing training materials in both English and Spanish. It was suggested that a pulpit announcement be made at Mass and Deacon JC will translate as the Porter is speaking. Also, a table in the Narthex at that Mass would be helpful.
- Everyone thanked the Porters for all they are doing.

ST. JOHN BOSCO REPORT – Jamie

- Thank you to the Porters for their presence, especially at the Friday School Mass

- SJB has been selected as the only private school in Arizona to receive BLUE RIBBON status based on test scores, how they achieved these scores, etc.
- Student enrollment is 458
- Thank you for your support of the Gala. Financials will be announced next Friday.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Knights of Columbus – Mike

- Thank you to Fr. Manasseh and the Parish staff for their support around the Celebration of Life for Doug Gasser
- Knights assisted with the SVdP food drive on September 6&7 and 13 &14
- 9/21 Blood Drive – We had 44 check-in with 41 successful donations.
- 9/24 Hosted the monthly Parish Rosary
- The Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest is underway at SJB. Contest ends 10/29.
- \$500 donation was made to the SJB Gala
- Rosary Sunday is 10/19; contact the Knights if anyone needs transportation.
- Legion of Mary Marian Procession participation will be after the 11am Mass on 10/12
- Luis oversees the Youth Soccer Challenge to be held at SJB on 10/18.
- 10/25 The Knights will be cooking hamburgers at the Harvest Festival
- \$1000 was donated to the re-build of a chapel in Phoenix
- \$500 donated to the Bed Build for Kids to be held in December. They will also be hosting Coats for Kids drive.

Building Update – Deacon Ed

- The last meeting focused on safety. The Diocese is recommending 22ml film to cover all windows.
- Termite treatments are underway on campus.

Events – Lani

- 10/4 Fr. James will be installed as Pastor at Corpus Christ Church at the 4pm Mass. Reception to follow, all are invited.
- 10/4 &5 – At all Masses, Fr. Manasseh will ask all volunteers to stand and receive a special blessing and thank you,
- 10/5 -Our English speaking new Parishioner Welcome is this Sunday.
- Please scan and submit any old photos of St. Benedict that can be included in a 40th Anniversary slide show. Send them to Lani by next Friday.

- 10/25 & 26 – Parishioners will be asked to stand to be recognized for being at St. Benedict for 5, 10, 20, and 40 years.
- Beginning 11/2, we will have an English speaking new Parishioner Welcome after the 9 am Mass and a Spanish speaking New Parishioner welcome after the 1 pm Sunday Spanish Mass.
- 11/6 St. Benedict will host a free concert by Catholic recording artist, Chris Brunelle.
- 11/15 is the Fall Fiesta. Tickets are on sale now. \$20/adult, \$10/child under 12. If you can't come, you can donate to offset the Priests' and Sisters' tickets.

PASTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Manasseh

- Welcome to Keith Call as the new Office Manager. With Keith present, Fr. Manasseh and Fr. Emmanuel can focus on the Pastoral Mission of the Parish. Thank you to all those who participated in the interview process.
- Fr. Emmanuel has another visa interview on 10/6. Please pray for a good outcome.
- Parishioners have asked about moving the 8:15 am daily Mass to the Church. Fr. Manasseh took a vote Tuesday at 8:15 am Mass. The vote was 16 in favor of staying in the Chapel; 10 were against. At this time, we will stay in the Chapel.
- Julie Holbrook will address the council in November concerning a new ministry – Sanctity of Life.
- There is a Padre Pio Ministry and devotions that have also been suggested.
- Benediction is a very important continuation of the Holy Eucharist and we need to improve the number of people in attendance. We will have evening prayer (the Divine Office) at 5:45pm on Friday followed by Benediction. Seven people came for training on this prayer; you do not have to be a lector to be a reader.

COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Deacon Ed announced that the Assisted Living Facility should break ground February/March of 2026. The annexes will remain here until they start building.
- Carolina has been approached by a family that would like to donate a week at a Mexico resort with the proceeds going toward mortgage reduction. Carolina will be in touch with Fr. and the Finance council.

7:51 pm Mike closed the meeting with a prayer celebrating our Guardian Angels

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Johnston, Secretary

