**PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**July 22, 2025**

**Present:** Fr. John, Fr. Christian, Fr. Homero, Fr. Keith, Richard Kunkel, Jason Messmer, Dan Fritch, Lynne Bohnert, Tara Dreblow, Lynn Scheu, Irma Alanis, Andrew Luke, Michelle Schoenbachler, Seminarian Brett Wilkey

**Absent:**  Jason Nord, Christine Brinkman, Jane Fischer, Nathan Bradford

The 7:00 pm meeting was called to order by Richard Kunkel.

**Opening Prayer –** Fr. John led us in prayer.

Fr. John made a motion to approve the June 2025 Parish Council minutes. Lynn Scheu made a second motion. All were in favor of approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Guadalupe Statue – Landscaping Around Statue – Fr. John
	1. No Real Update. Fundraiser possibly this Fall but weddings/Steak Night/Events making difficult
2. Job Posting for Organist/Music Ministry Update – Fr. John
	1. Melaine Baker already started July 16th …doing a great job with the music
3. Church Mosaics/Renovations/Rectory – Fr John
 a. Scaffolding went up & cleaning of third mosaic scheduled to be completed by Aug 8th.
 b. Matt Weyer is still looking at a fanning-type lighting from above to bring out colors.

 c. Rectory Remodel/New Construction. No update. Contacted Bishop & looking for architect

1. Annual Budget – Fr. John/Dan
	1. Checking with Jeremy (w/ junior high position—working with Holy Trinity)…not sure if posted yet. This position will report directly to Fr. John
	2. Catherine will give Parish Council update in Aug/Sept on status of Bosco

5. Parish Council New Members – Jason/Fr. John
 a. Three Candidates have accepted nominations…Nathan Bradford, Nathan Mehringer & Steve Dunn

6. Parish Council Survey Feedback – Fr. John

 a. No real update. Fr. Christian wrote a very well-constructed message for the bulletin

7. Catholic Jubilee “Pilgrims of Hope” – Fr. Homero

 a. Pilgrimage for Nov 2025 has been cancelled and rescheduled for Fall of 2026

8. Open Discussion on Parish Council Items – Fr. Christian

 a. Letter in Bulletin will outline “Atmosphere of Reverence” with specifics of noise level of congregation
 before & after mass, disruptive kids (when to take out of church). Using Parish Survey as reason

 b. July 4th 2026 (250th Celebration of American)…No Update/Just know we should do something

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Update on Food Packing Event from July 19th weekend – Lynn
* Fantastic Turnout from Parish and individuals of the area. The joy from the people who participated
* 70,200 Meals work Packaged of which about 10% are going to local organization for distribution
* About 250 people participated in the first session (52,000 meals) & 110 individuals in the second session (18,000 meals)
* Courtney Schmidt was the biggest driving force to the success of this event

 2. Discussion on Possible Additions – Fr. John/Jason
 -Discussion of addition of Commercial Grade Dishwasher & Commercial Grade Washer/Dryer to assist
 with larger events was brought up. Very receptive. Need to get price for these to consider

3. Upcoming Events / Dates:

* + Food Packing Event – July 19th (All Hands on Deck)
	+ Blood Drive – July 27th
	+ Strassenfest – July 31st – Aug 3rd (Parade on Sunday…Walkers Needed) Float #38
	+ Memorial Mass – Aug 10th
	+ Holy Day – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mother – Aug 15th
	+ Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation Jubilee 2025-Sept 6th (10:30 am)-Ferdinand/St. Meinrad
	+ Steak Night – October 25th
	+ Guadalupe Pilgrimage – Nov 9th – 15th …Moved to Fall 2026
	+ Vacations:
	 -Father John – July 23rd – July 30th

 -Fr. Christian – Aug 8 – Aug 22nd

 4. Catechism 101 Fall Schedule (Kundeck Hall 7:00 PM) – Fr Christian Great turnouts last year!

* + Sep 8 – A (Re-)Introduction to the Creed
	+ Sep 15 – Who Is Jesus? The Incarnate Son
	+ Sep 22 – Book Club in a Pub Replaces Catechism 101 this week
	+ Sep 29 – Mary, the Mother of God and Our Mother
	+ Oct 6 – The Death, Descent, and Resurrection of Jesus
	+ Oct 13 – The Ascension of Christ and the Sending of the Holy Spirit
	+ Oct 20 – The Person of the Holy Spirit in Scripture
	+ Oct 27 – The Holy Spirit in the Life of the Christian
	+ Nov 3 – The Holy Spirit and the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic
	+ Nov 10 – The Holy Spirit and Forgiveness, plus “How to Make a Good Confession”
	+ Nov 17 – The Four Last Things
	+ Dec 1 – The Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Mary

 5. Theology on Tap (Young Adult Catholics in their 20s and 30s @ St. Benedict Brew Works)
 -Oct 9th – Fr. Simon Hermann, OSB, “Finding Peace in an Anxious Time”
 -Nov 13th – Cassie Schuester, “Following Christ as a Young Adult”
 -Dec 11th – Dr. Robert Alvis, “St. Leo the Great & Pope Leo XIII: The Namesake of the New Pope”

 6. Bible Studies and Reading Groups – Fr. Christian
 -Women’s Bible Study (w/ Fr. Keith)-Tuesdays @ 6:30PM (09/09/25-10/14/25)
 -Men’s Bible Study (w/ Fr. Keith)-Thursdays @ 6:30PM (9/11/25-10/16/25)
 -Spanish Prayer & Bible Study monthly on 2nd Thursday of the month (Room 301) at 6:30PM
 -Dad’s Reading Group (Fr. Christian) Currently Reading Listen to my Son. Contact Fr. Christian at
 craab@evdio.org for time and location.
 -Book Club in a Pub-Sept 22 @ Oink, Inc to discuss Return: How to Draw Your Child Back to Church

 **Commission Updates**: (top points from each commission lasting 5 minutes or less)

Finance – Dan

* Nothing new since Parish Council Reviewed the Completion of the 2025-2026 budget and approved this at the June meeting.

Justice & Charity (formerly Evangelization & Outreach) – Lynn

* Clothing Closet – have room on 3rd floor of Parish Ctr-starting to collect clothes in Aug.
* DCCM-Strassenfest Booth (needs volunteers to set up on Wed and for Saturday evening shifts)
* July 19th – Food Packing Event….HUGE SUCCESS

Evangelization & Catechesis (formerly Spiritual Life) – Andrew/Nathan

* 260 kids participated in VBS this year…Longer Days worked extremely well
* Rock Your Faith had 80 that joined in this event
* Bible Studies with Fr. Keith – Theology on Tap with Fr. Christian

Community Life – Michele

* Strassenfest parade Sun-Aug 3rd. Need walkers. Meet on Greene Street
* Upcoming Trip on Aug 27th that was opened to other parishes (few more open spots)
* Senior Dinner is in September

Liturgy and prayer – Lynne Bohnert

* Blessings of Grandparents Mass (encourage to attend with grandkids)
* Polka Mass during Strassenfest & Aug 10th will be the Memorial Day Mass (2023-2025)
* Aug 22nd is Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary
* Oct 7th Feast of Holy Rosary (Bilingual Mass)

Latino – Irma/Fr. Homero

* Aug 30th – Retreat for women in Ferdinand this year (over 100 women @ last years retreat)
* Pilgrimage of Lady Guadalupe is postponed – rescheduling for Fall 2026 (getting more participants)

**CLOSING PRAYER – Fr. Homero**

MEMBERS: Jason Nord, Jason Messmer, Christine Brinkman, Richard Kunkel, Tara Dreblow, Jane Fischer

COMMISSION CHAIRS: Dan Fritch, Lynn Scheu, Michele Schoenbachler, Andrew Luke, Irma Alanis, Lynne Bohnert

STAFF MEMBERS: Fr. John Brosmer, Fr. Homero Rodriguez, Fr. Christian Raab, Fr. Keith Hart, Pam Freyberger, Tammy Mehringer, Tracie Ihle, Courtney Schmidt, Seminarian Brett Wilkey

**\*\* Tuesday, August 26th @ 7 PM will be the next meeting \*\***