

Our Lady of the Rosary Pastoral Council Minutes

Meeting Date and Time	January 27, 2025 6:30 PM
Meeting Location	OLR Rosary Hall
Members Present	Ann Kolb, Patricia Farner, Kathi McLendon, Maryzabel Hernandez, Brandon Shriver, Kevin Bertelsen, Esperanza Rincon, Orla Kelly-Rajan, Donaciano Corona, Jim Mach, Holly Turnage
Members Absent	Zusana Herrera, Father Sebastian (out of country), John Lombardi (excused)
Guests/Other Members	Helen Greco, Teresa Kines, Amanda Passmore, Kris Joss, George Olmoz
Meeting Presider	Kevin Bertelsen

AGENDA TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS/DECISIONS
Opening Prayer and Scripture Reading/Sharing	Orla Kelly-Rajan 1 Corinthians 12: 13	
Approval of Minutes		Kevin moved the minutes be accepted/Jim seconded. Motion passed.
Amendment/ Additions to the Agenda		A presentation by Teresa Kines regarding the church directory was added to the agenda under Other Business.
Business of the Day	<p>Digital Electronics: Kevin sent the Diocese' guidance on digital projection screens to the PC members. The Diocese no longer permits any digital projections during Mass. Retractable screens may be used for non-liturgical events in churches, such as talks and presentations, as long as they are discreet and unnoticeable when retracted.</p> <p>Pastoral Council Action Items:</p> <p>Parish-wide unity events: Orla stated that a St. Patrick's Day celebration is being planned on March 15 after 5:00 Mass.</p> <p>Babysitting certification: Pat reported that the Youth Group has 6 – 10 interested individuals. They will examine possible dates this week.</p> <p>Special liturgical events: Orla stated that Father wants to plan a Lenten retreat, but it still needs to be confirmed.</p> <p>Church survey: Kathi reported that over 100 surveys had been submitted to date and gave a brief overview of preliminary results. The survey deadline is February 2.</p> <p>Calendar of outreach activities: Brandon reported that he had received activities from two groups thus far.</p> <p>Conversational Spanish classes: Maryzabel announced that the classes will begin on February 11 and will be held at 6:00 pm in Rosary Hall. The class will run for 6 weeks, and each class will cost \$8. The book is \$13. Announcements will be placed in the church bulletin and lector notes with a sign-up sheet in Rosary Hall.</p> <p>Joyful Gifts...Joyful Giving: Donaciano and Jim will begin preparing a draft list of ways in which parishioners can contribute their time, talents, and treasures to the church.</p>	<p>Kevin will contact the two recommended vendors from the Diocese to obtain cost estimates on digital projections as well as audiovisual needs of Faith Formation.</p> <p>It was suggested that the parish pay a partial amount of the \$60/person registration fee. Kevin will check with Father to see if he approves.</p> <p>Kathi will prepare a final survey report for the February meeting.</p> <p>Brandon will have the calendar ready for the February meeting.</p>

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Recognition of commissions and groups	<p>Ladies' Guild: Amanda Passmore presented a brief update on the activities of the Ladies' Guild. Thirty-two members are on the roll with approximately 20 – 25 in attendance at each monthly meeting. Planned or conducted activities during the year include hosting the OLR Feast Day celebration, bake sale, Belk fundraisers, Easter basket raffle, Angel Tree, Baby Bottle Campaign for Alpha Pregnancy, gifts and reception for Confirmation, cooking for Crisis Center twice/year, assisting with food distribution at the Episcopal Church, and volunteering at Special Olympics. All money raised by the Guild is used to purchase needed items for the church such as altar banners, incense stand, and cassocks and surplices for altar servers. Amanda mentioned three needs of the Guild: (1) assistance and ideas for recruiting new members, including Hispanic women; (2) assistance with the Angel Tree process; and (3) ideas for good speakers for Guild meetings. Suggestions were made to consider changing the meeting date from Wednesday evenings to avoid conflict with Faith Formation classes and teachers who might otherwise be interested in joining the Guild.</p> <p>Evangelization Commission: Kris Joss reported on the activities of the Evangelization Commission. The Commission was formed in 2018 at Father Ambrose's request to promote the practice of regular prayer and study, leading to the desire to share the Good News with others, both within and outside the faith community. Activities include a prayer chain emailed to participating parishioners; fall and spring discussion groups dealing with faith-based topics, including an evening Zoom discussion; Stations of the Crib during the first weekend of Advent; and Prayer Stations for adults and children in May/June in the Parish Center. Additionally, the Commission conducts book fairs, provides a Christmas gift for parishioners, and distributes Little Black Books for Lent. The Commission hopes to reach out to the community through the placement of a Prayer Box in front of the church. Kris voiced her desire for greater participation of the Hispanic community. It was suggested that the Commission consider conducting a Spanish discussion group in the evening via Zoom.</p> <p>Finance: A financial report prepared by Brandon was emailed to all Council members.</p>	<p>Kevin will talk with Father regarding the procedures for the Pastoral Council to approve annual budgets of the Guild and other church organizations.</p>
Other business	<p>Church Directory: Teresa reported that it was time for a new church directory. The last one was made in 2019/2020. The company (Universal Church Directories) does not charge any upfront costs to the church. Each family that is photographed will receive a free 8 X 10 photograph and a photo directory. They have the option to purchase packages of photos as well. The church will receive a 20% overrun of directories for new members. While there is no cost to the church, the process does require significant work on the part of volunteers, including parishioners to oversee the registration of parishioners and manning the table on the days of the photo shoot, make announcements at Mass and in the bulletin, design ministry pages and photos of each group, update church history, etc. Teresa suggested that the photo shoot be held either in the spring or fall.</p>	<p>A Pastoral Council member needs to volunteer to take the lead role with the church directory.</p>

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	Disciple Maker Index: Kathi is serving as the point of contact for the Diocese's Disciple Maker Index, a 95-question parishioner survey that examines attitudes and beliefs, relationships and satisfaction, participation, and demographics. The survey is intended to be completed online although paper versions will be available in both English and Spanish as well. All churches in the Charlotte Diocese are to complete the survey between March 6 – April 6. The results which will be made available to the church in May will provide the Pastoral Council with more robust and in-depth information to guide decision-making. A variety of options will be used in February to advertise and explain the survey and encourage parishioner participation.	
Announcements	It has been recommended that Ash Wednesday masses be held at 12:15 and 6:00 (English) and 7:30 (Spanish).	Father will decide when he returns from his trip abroad.
Next meeting date	Monday, February 24 6:30 PM Invited Commissions: Knights of Columbus Opening Prayer and Scripture Reading: John Lombardi	
Closing prayer	Kevin	
Meeting adjourned at:	8:03 PM	
Minutes submitted by:	Kathi McLendon	