

Our Lady of the Rosary Pastoral Council Minutes

Meeting Date and Time	March 24, 2025 6:30 PM
Meeting Location	OLR Rosary Hall
Members Present	Ann Kolb, Patricia Farner, Kathi McLendon, Esperanza Rincon, Orla Kelly-Rajan, Jim Mach, Holly Turnage, John Lombardi, Father Sabastian
Members Absent	Zusana Herrera, Brandon Shriver, Kevin Bertelsen, Maryzabel Hernandez, Donaciano Corona
Guests/Other Members	Diane Kirkbride, Jimmy Wooten
Meeting Presider	Jim Mach

AGENDA TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS/DECISIONS
Opening Prayer and Scripture Reading/Sharing	Philippians 1:9-11, 20-21 John Lombardi	
Approval of Minutes		Orla moved the minutes be accepted/Pat seconded. Motion passed.
Amendment/ Additions to the Agenda		No additions
Recognition of commissions and groups	<p>Knights of Columbus: Jimmy Wooten, Grand Knight, presented an update on the Knight's activities. There are presently 35 members who are actively involved in a variety of charitable works such as assisting with the Special Olympics, veteran causes, Confirmation, and the homeless shelter. They also built a wheelchair ramp for a family in need and removed fallen trees for an elderly couple. Their main fundraiser is the annual yard sale which brings in about \$12,000 and allows them to make donations to the church, Cancer Services, and other organizations and causes.</p> <p>Youth Group: Pat Farner gave an overview of this exciting youth organization in its third year. They currently have 15 active members ranging from 7th grade through high school. The three pillars of the organization are service, friendship, and spirituality. The group is involved in a variety of service projects including serving lunch at Grace Episcopal Church for the needy; providing Christmas gifts for residents at the Children's Home; collecting food bags for the Blessing Box; and seeking donations of socks, hats, and gloves during Socktober. The members are currently looking into sponsoring a soccer tournament as a fundraiser and will be participating in training on the dangers of social media (Screenagers) and Mental Health First Aid. Karen Bloxsom and Beth Davis assist Pat with the Youth Group activities.</p> <p>St. Monica's Ministry: Diane Kirkbride explained that the ministry was started about one year ago and is designed to offer prayers and support for individuals who have fallen away from the Catholic Church or lost faith. Their monthly meetings consist of prayer, support, and a book club. The 15 members are planning a special Holy Hour four times/year during the day and evening in English and Spanish to pray for the 40 – 50 names the ministry currently has on file. They also hope to begin a Spanish St. Monica's Ministry, and prayers are currently being translated.</p>	

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Business of the Day	<p>Pastoral Council Action Items:</p> <p>Parish-wide unity events: Orla stated that a St. Patrick's Day potluck dinner was held in March. Since a church picnic received very favorable responses on the church survey, it was decided that October might be the best time for a picnic. This will allow sufficient time to plan an exciting Fall Festival for all parishioners.</p> <p>Babysitting certification: Pat reported that the Red Cross babysitting certification training will be held on March 28 from 4:00 – 8:00 PM and March 29 and 30 from 1:30 – 5:30 PM. Fourteen youth have registered for the training. The church will cover \$30 of the participant's \$60 training fee. The remaining fee will be split evenly between the Youth Group budget and the individual participants.. In return for the training, the participants will provide babysitting services at certain liturgical events.</p> <p>Special liturgical events: Orla stated the Stations of the Cross continue during Lent on Fridays at 6:00 (English) and 7:00 (Spanish). The Evangelization Commission is holding a Lenten discussion program called "The Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary." Parishioners meet at the Parish Center from 11-noon on Mondays to view and discuss a video. Fellowship continues over lunch at a local restaurant for those whose schedule permits. There will be no Lenten retreat this year due to scheduling conflicts, but a Spanish retreat will be held in April.</p> <p>Orla also reported that they were contacting local stores seeking donations for the Blessing Box.</p> <p>Church survey: Kathi provided an overview of the church survey results and announced that a Communication Committee has been formed to analyze the results and develop a comprehensive communications plan for the parish.</p> <p>Calendar of outreach activities: Brandon provided via email a list of outreach activities received thus far from various church organizations.</p> <p>Conversational Spanish classes: Eight parishioners are participating in the Conversational Spanish class that meets weekly in Rosary Hall. Maryzabel is the instructor.</p> <p>Joyful Gifts...Joyful Giving: Jim presented a beginning list of ways in which parishioners can contribute their time, talents, and treasures to the church.</p>	<p>Kathi will present a draft communication plan at the April meeting.</p> <p>Jimmy Wooten will forward activities of the Knights of Columbus, and a fuller list will be prepared and submitted at the April meeting.</p> <p>Esperanza will check with parishioners interested in a Conversational English class to see what days and times they prefer.</p> <p>Kathi will forward an expanded list to Jim that she had been working on for the church's website. The full list will be distributed at the April meeting for review. A copy will be posted in the church bulletin a couple of weeks prior to the Joyful Gifts...Joyful Giving kick-off weekend to allow parishioners time to determine how they would like to contribute.</p>

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	<p>Unity Prayer: No prayer has been created yet. An active discussion was held on ways to get parishioners more involved in liturgical and social events at the church.</p> <p>Father asked Pastoral Council members to greet parishioners after Mass in the church foyer, answer questions, and provide personal invitations to participate in upcoming activities.</p> <p>Kathi stated that improved communication via an updated website, parish app, and the use of text message reminders will help to increase participation.</p> <p>Joyful Gifts...Joyful Giving month will also help to increase the ways in which parishioners can become more actively involved in church functions.</p> <p>The Communication Committee is also focusing on changing the delivery of announcements at the weekend Masses.</p> <p>Father asked that a Pastoral Council member provide monthly updates at the weekend Masses and that the names of the Pastoral Council members be placed in the Sunday bulletin.</p>	<p>Ann will take care of having Pastoral Council name badges made for this purpose.</p> <p>John informed the members that announcements will be made at the beginning of Mass by a designated "announcer". Announcements will begin with <i>Our Lady of the Rosary.....Together in Christ</i> and end with the OLR Unity Prayer.</p>
Other business	<p>Update on Church Directory</p> <p>Update on Diocesan Survey: Kathi reported that we have had 40 responses thus far. We are hoping for an increase in submissions after Father urged parishioners to complete the survey this past weekend.</p>	<p>Father suggested that we hold off on facilitating a new church directory at this time.</p>
Announcements	No additional announcements were made.	
Next meeting date	<p>Monday, April 28 6:30 PM</p> <p>Invited Commissions: Hispanic Ministry and Parish Life</p> <p>Opening Prayer and Scripture Reading: Jim Mach</p>	
Closing prayer	Father	
Meeting adjourned at:	8:19 PM	
Minutes submitted by:	Kathi McLendon	