

**St. Joseph the Worker
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
November 24th, 2025**

Attendance: Fr. Joe Molloy, Debbie Shawgo, Rachel Green, Pat Kornfeld, Liz Reef, Jacob Siebert, Jennifer Trapani, Rob Flesher & Grace Ann Thomas
Potential new board members- Steve Foster and Sean Fink

- **Opening prayer-** Liz Reef

- **Review and approve November 2025 meeting minutes**
 - A motion was made to approve minutes- Rachel Green
 - Second by Jennifer Trapani
 - All council members agreed to approve.

- **Fr Joe Updates:**
 - Campaign project updates- *Construction ongoing*
 - Entrance- moving along slowly.
 - Wrong door openers ordered for the wrong sides- this will be fixed
 - Ceiling currently being worked on
 - Insulation being installed
 - Kitchen
 - Floor poured
 - Trying to sell stoves and appliances on EBay.
 - Bathrooms
 - Preschool bathroom project in process.
 - Church lighting project to be completed by November 25.
 - Electrical in the choir area in process and progressing
 - Job search for new secretary
 - Sue is retiring- she will be missed
 - Posted on Indeed with many applicants
 - Sue to assist with orientation 1-2 weeks in the New Year (bulletin, payroll, phones, etc.)
 - Fr Joe Educational videos
 - Danny Frey is interested in assisting with the videography for this project.
 - 101 Questions/Answers with Fr Joe- Tuesdays in November 6:00-7:00
 - Sessions have gone very well- 60 questions prepared and only 10 addressed
 - Parishioners had their own questions too
 - This will continue during Lent
 - Evangelization (Parish Vitality)
 - Mass counts up 7% over last October's count

- First November weekends up a lot consistently
 - New young people attending
 - Counts for the 4:30 PM =728, 8AM = 748 and 10:30 AM = 745
 - Did the mailing help?
 - “Why Sunday Matters”, (first published by the Irish Bishops), mailed to all parishioners.
 - Modern Mailing pricing for printing, stuffing and mailing of 3-page documents to 1,080 homes = \$850 + postage.
 - Fr Joe has drafted a letter to ask parishioners to come back to Mass.
 - Suggestion to also email and add the article to our parish website.
 - Church cry room discussion
 - Fr Joe followed up with the parishioner that suggested the change
 - She was fine with the council’s decision
 - Another parishioner asked about the screens in the front of the church being turned off before Mass to focus on prayer
 - The screens promote events that are upcoming
 - She feels that the information in the bulletin is sufficient and the screens are distracting; prefers the screens show prayers for parishioners to use
 - Parish council weigh in
 - Serves as another avenue to be informed of parish events
 - Mode of evangelization for parish and guests
 - It was voted that the reminder of events continue to stream on the screen before Mass
 - December Evangelization – “Your presence is my present”; invite your Catholic friends that haven’t attended in a while to Mass
- **New Business**
 - Cry room sound system is fixed and working well. Ready for any families that need to use it
- **Old Business**
 - Parish sign status-
 - Phil Mulford worked up two options for the logo for the sign.
 - The council voted and majority liked option 2, the white outline on the solid background.
 - Vote was 5:3 white outline vs white fill-in
 - Second logo conversation
 - Use runner up logo in the bulletin?
 - Top left?
 - Will need digital image to make this happen
 - Question asked about why we were using the second option in the bulletin
 - Council members wanted to keep option 1 in the bulletin and all official items
 - Use of a different option creates confusion with our cultural identity

- Council voted yes to using our top choice in the bulletin
 - Discussed using a different color for the background (tan or beige)
 - Pat to ask Phil for additional mock ups for this idea to discuss in January
- 2026 Mission singer/speaker: **Lee Roessler & Joe Farris**
 - Joe proposed Sunday, Monday (3/1/26-3/2/26)
 - Joe can fly in Friday afternoon (no flights into Springfield on Saturday morning) and do the invitation at all the Masses
 - How do we set up?
 - Will need to cover cost of transportation, airfare, hotel
 - How do we advertise?
 - How do they like to be announced
 - Liz to follow up with Lee and Joe and share info
- Evangelization ideas, suggestions
 - Open house for community and parish- good idea
 - Event for entire community may have liability risks for safety concerns
 - Come Home for Christmas- 'Your Presence is my Present'
 - Invite other Catholic churches to our Mission with Lee & Joe
 - Advertise in the Catholic Times? Fr Joe to explore
 - Invite all local parishes?
 - Put it on News You Can Use and our bulletins
 - Share the word- bring back the candle?
 - Council agreed that Fr Joe will pick one child to carry the book to Share the Word
 - Fr Joe to start this upcoming Sunday.
- Celebration of Parish Council Service of Rob Flesher & Jennifer Trepani
 - We are thankful for your years of service to the parish council.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 26, 2026 @ 5:30PM

Opening Prayer: Pat Kornfeld