

**Saint John the Baptist –  
Pastoral Outreach Commission  
Monthly Meeting Agenda / Minutes**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Tues., Dec. 13, 2022 @6:30pm</b>	<b>Recorder:</b>	<b>Socchie Fondevilla</b>	<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Marie Zimmerman</b>
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<b>Member/Attendee</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Member/Attendee</b>	<b>Present</b>
Louie Fondevilla	X	Gwen Schuller-Bebus	
Socchie Fondevilla	X	Marie Zimmerman	X
Mary Kohlhaas (Staff Liaison)	X	Lesia Zownirowycz	X
Joni Metz	X	Open Post	
Cheryl Puffer	X	Carolyn Brandt	
Deacon Gary Schneider (Staff)		Jim Glaser (PLC Chairman- Guest)	X

- A. Opening Prayer: Mary Kohlhaas
- B. Approval of minutes from November Meeting and tonight’s Agenda: Approval put on hold. In the future, the modified minutes will be re-sent to the members for final approval, before being sent to Joseph. Tonight’s agenda has been approved.

C. PLC Request - Discuss these questions:

**1. How do you keep Christ at the center of your life with all the intensity of the Season happening around you?**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Answers</b>
1	One thing that has helped a member a lot during this Advent season is the group ‘Rejoice!’ in the Church. Every day there’s a portion in the devotional booklet about the Gospel and talks about what you can do on that day. It looks at the Sunday reading, and you read those like five days before the group discussion. It’s amazing, some of the things that come up in that book. She’d like to see it continued in the Parish
2	Some attended an Advent Retreat in the Convent of the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver. One member joined the Seven Sisters Apostolate Recollection in St. Elizabeth Ann’s Seaton Catholic Church in Hastings
3	It’s probably the last Christmas that the family will all be together with his dad (who’s 91 and not in great health); so, the thought of family and what has brought them through; what their Mom & Dad taught them, kind of what is their legacy, at the same time, they have to keep that in the Spirit of the Church. And that is why it is a part of who they are and what they do, going to those places, keeping them Christ-centered.
4	One decided she does not need to be in another small group, reading another book. She’s trying to find little ways to celebrate Advent or Christmas.
5	She also drove around to see and enjoy outdoor Christmas lights display

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6	Went to see the movie ‘ <i>I Heard the Bells</i> ’; a historical story of Christmas carol based on the 1863 (during the Civil War) poem ‘Christmas Bells’ by American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.
8	A member has been praying the St. Andrew Novena for Christmas, traditionally recited 15 times a day, starting on November 30 <sup>th</sup> going through December 24 <sup>th</sup> . The key is to pray 5 in the morning, 5 on mid-day and 5 at night.
9	The Seminarians are holding the ‘Advent Lessons and Carols’ on St. Mary’s Chapel at the Seminary this Saturday at 4:00 pm. There’s music and reading and congregational hymns
10	One of the traditions in the Philippines, is to attend the nine-days ‘Misa de Gallo’ or Mass at Dawn or Midnight Mass being practiced daily in nine Churches in the Twin Cities (St. Bonaventure, St. Joseph’s in New Hope, Guardian Angels, St. Jerome, etc.) from December 16 <sup>th</sup> to the 24 <sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.
11	The ‘ <a href="#">Rorate Caeli (Is 45:8)</a> ’, a middle of Saturday night Latin Mass on Advent is celebrated with the Church illuminated only with candles. Holy Mass starts before sunrise and during the Consecration, the sun is coming up through the windows. It is a tradition honoring Our Lady. It is a votive mass in Mary’s honor for Her gift, the Light of the world.
12	By sharing your blessings, following God’s command of loving Him above all things & loving your neighbor as yourself. To avoid being sidetracked by society’s version of holidays, we give gifts to the needy like groceries to a family friend or shawls crocheted by a friend for each of the Amira Choice resident during their Eucharistic Service tomorrow.
13	One of the members, to honor the memory of her mom who passed on December 7, she saved up throughout the year so she can do random things for somebody every day, like giving those on the Angel Tree or for someone who has no money for their groceries, some kind of fun though small.
14	We never really know how small our gift is. There are just a lot of times, for one member, she thought what she does or gives is something small but to the other person (for those who received it) it’s like, “you gave me a gift!”

**D. Updates: Pastoral Outreach Ministries**

MINISTRY	COORDINATOR/S	UPDATES
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist (EMHC)</b>		<b>Mary:</b> she’s trying to keep up with delivering the Eucharist to people and finding other people to take it on when she can so, that she’s not doing it at all; she usually does first couple of times
<b>Food Shelf</b> Liaison:	Jerry & Betty Lou Elfert	<b>Louie:</b> SVdP put a write up on bulletin about Food shelf last week.

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	<p><a href="mailto:jerry@elfert.us">jerry@elfert.us</a> 651-341-7108 c</p>	
<p><b>Quilters</b> Liaison: Joni</p>	<p>Helen Houie &amp; Anne Selmer 651-484-5598</p>	<p><b>Mary:</b> We want to do an ad for the Quilters because they are looking for people to receive quilts. They have so many in storage right now. They have a good number of them that need to be tied so they have a bunch that are coming down the pipe. People just don't know about them. So, they want us to do some advertising for that. Maybe this time of the year is the best time to do that too.</p> <p>Mary will put it in an ad for now and maybe do more of an article in February. There's just been an article on the quilt blessings in October. Joni will write something up, to send to Mary for edit.</p> <p><b>Jim:</b> He works at St. Paul Music Academy. They have a large free and reduced lunch population; they hand out some items like this. They have specific families that they would give it to. The quilts will be something that he can put in an ask.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He will initially ask for ten (10) blankets so they can make sure utilize them. He can talk to the people in charge of it and find out how many they really needed. They do reading where they have their own spots, so the lap quilts are just fine for this activity. They can keep them in school for the whole year, then they can take them home.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mary:</b> The Quilters are ok with anybody in the community as outlets. They've taken them to the Police and the Fire Department, donated quite a few to the Sharing and Caring Hands last year.</p>
<p><b>Respect Life</b> Liaison: Lesia</p>	<p>Jacque Schmitz <a href="mailto:gischmitz@comcast.net">gischmitz@comcast.net</a> 651-633-0251 h</p>	<p><b>Lesia</b> has spoken with Jacquie whose mother is currently in the hospital, so she has been very busy with that lately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For the Bulletin she has given a total commitment.</li> <li>- She said that she's been trying to get information from the Archdiocese about what will happen in January. Right now, there's a big question as to what they're planning on doing. And recently, maybe a couple of months ago, they were planning on getting a group to go to Washington DC in January. Mikayla, a member of staff, was thinking about going with some students. (Lesia was not sure about this).</li> <li>- Lesia added that we don't know what the January "March for Life" in St. Paul is going to look like, considering the overturning of Roe v Wade last year.</li> </ul>

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		Once Jacquie hears something, she hopefully will let Lesia know and will update the group on that.
<p><b>Sharing &amp; Caring Hands</b> Liaison: Cheryl</p>	<p>Marty Schutz <a href="mailto:schutzlaw@msn.com">schutzlaw@msn.com</a> 765-242-4563</p>	<p><b>POC's request to PLC</b> (for update- see below*)</p> <p><b>Mary:</b> both <b>Blanket and Hygiene Bags Collections</b> are not Parish drives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Blanket Collection</b> would be like what we do with the left-over medical stuff; we rotate it through the Bulletin occasionally, as a reminder to people that we are always collecting blankets for Sharing &amp; Caring Hands. And so, if they want to buy a blanket or if they have a gently used one that they could donate, they can bring it in when they see that reminder. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It did not sound that they needed any particular number. It's one of those on going needs as people come through. We will just do it as an ongoing collection rather than All Parish drive. They can just bring the blankets either to the Information Desk or to Mary's office.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cheryl:</b> Marty mentioned putting a box in the Coat Room. He would just pick them up from there and deliver them to S&amp;CH</p> <p><b>Mary:</b> He also says he's got storage space at home that he can use for both collections until he takes them down to the S&amp;CH</p> </li> <li>The <b>Hygiene Bags Collection.</b> Mary Jo Copeland is saying they go through those about a hundred bags a month. So, they will need 1,200 bags in a year. And we think that's too much for one Parish to do. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We don't want to do this as a drive either. We would rather present it to different groups in the Parish as a service project. In fact, the school is doing it right now. They've called and asked what's needed in the hygiene bags and so Mary told them. They are doing it right now and the parents are supposed to bring in donations. The youth group has it as a backup. They were going to go out and do something and if that does not work, they have it as a backup service project.</li> <li>Marty has already gone to the KC's, and they have done some of them. Mary sees it as something the Seniors could easily do. She thinks Family Formation, any of the women's groups like CCW or devoted can bring these items during their meeting or bring bags already done. These groups could do this as a service project throughout the year.</li> <li>SJB would just commit that we're going to do two months' worth, about <b>200 bags</b> at the least.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What we were hoping to do is, since Mary’s connected to some <b>Pastoral Ministers in other Parishes</b>, (St. Patrick in Oak Grove, Epiphany Church in Coon Rapids, Church of St. Paul in Ham Lake, St. Peter’s in Forest Lake, St. Odilia in Shoreview, St. Rose of Lima in Roseville, and St. Tim’s in Blaine). That group of Pastoral Ministers is trying to get together, since they’re more of like-minded in Ministry and Mary had mentioned this to one of them and she said that this is an idea that they could bring to their group and maybe different parishes will be interested in taking it. Mary sent an e-mail about this project, what’s in the hygiene bag, what she proposes and that SJB does not want to be in-charge of it and that if they’re interested, let her know but talk directly to Sharing and Caring Hands and set it up. We don’t want to be holding the bag if they decide to drop out. We don’t want to coordinate all the parishes; we just want to invite them to be a part of this service opportunity that we’re doing.</li> <li>3. Regarding communicating announcements or information, Mary will send it out. Since she’s the person those people come to for any service project ideas, she could even send it out to the people in-charge of the different Ministries because anybody can do this at any time of the year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cheryl:</b> Marty will take only bags already done. He does not want separate boxes of hygiene items.</p>
<p><b>St. Vincent de Paul Society</b> Liaison : Louie</p>	<p>Joe Jansen 651-307-6767</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Louie discussed in the SVdP meeting posting a write-up about their Ministry on the Bulletin, but it was decided to put it on-hold</li> <li>2. For the last 3 weekends of November, 2,080 pairs of socks and 800 pairs of underwear were collected and sorted out. They’ll be putting in the Bulletin a thank you note and indicating if anybody’s interested in participating in working with them.</li> <li>3. Client visits: received 10 calls; gave \$500 &amp; gift cards to a family of 7.</li> <li>4. SVdP’s Simpson House meals will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of the month, January 25</li> </ol>
<p><b>Widows/Widowers Group (W/WG)</b> Liaison: Mary 1<sup>st</sup> Monday</p>	<p>TBA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mary:</b> Took an unofficial survey about having a Christmas Party during the Christmas Season – after December 25<sup>th</sup> vs. and “Advent Party”. They thought they would want to stay in Advent so we will try to move it to St. Nicholas’ Feast Day, December 6<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Young at Heart</b> (prev. Senior Sparks)</p>	<p>Julie Delaney <a href="mailto:julpat@gmail.com">julpat@gmail.com</a> m</p>	<p><b>Mary:</b> We had the Seniors’ Christmas/Advent Party last Thursday, December 1 at 1-4pm (potluck);</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Programs:</li> </ol>

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<p>Liaison: Marie Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday</p>	<p>763-242-4563</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. carols- Fr. Paul’s aunt Janice played the accordion</li> <li>b. Lots of ideas for what Julie, the emcee could share in between the songs</li> <li>c. Games (naming Christmas carols, some traditions in different countries, or where the Advent wreath &amp; tree originated)</li> <li>d. White elephant exchange gifts with Santa Claus &amp; Mrs. Claus.</li> </ol> <p>4. Sent them home with Advent calendars, the Story of St. Nick, and St. Nick coins, online links where you can get Catholic ‘Merry Christmas’ cards (not Happy Holidays), Madonna and Child stamps; list of keeping Christ in Christmas, eq. religious-themed stamps</p>
<p><b>Compassion Connect Clinic (CCC)</b> Liaison: Mary</p>		<p><b>Mary:</b> Proposed Date: June or a fall date</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It’s the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of SJBNB participation</li> <li>2. CCC meeting last Sunday, Dec 9 at St. Joseph’s Hall</li> <li>3. Marie Zimmerman &amp; Gwen Schuller-Bebus have stepped up for the Executive Team; there’s room for two more volunteers; if people just break up pieces that they’re willing to work on. Salem may have somebody for one of them.</li> <li>4. Once the leadership is nailed down and we know that we can do it, we’ll pick a date (maybe by Thursday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of December) then we can start recruiting professionals (doctors, dentists, hygienists, nurses, etc.)</li> <li>5. Problems encountered last year: As they were listing these with all the extra stress, warehouse with stuff in it that we were supposed to get had a fire; their office got broken into twice; some shipments never arrived from Portland</li> <li>6. <b>Request to soak it in prayers</b> since it is an evangelistic outreach. Pray for the people to come forward for it, all the people that we need, the expertise, the interest, for the money, and the equipment.</li> </ol>

**E. Pastoral Ministry Coordinator Update (Others): POC Client spreadsheet**

1. Mary’s hoping it will be ready by January or February
2. **Status:** Mary’s editing comments, taking out details that are too personal but leave in some of those that the members can follow up on when they make calls
3. **Purpose of the worksheet:** How does Mary give the POC members the people to call with enough information so it will not be just a cold call: ‘Hi, this is who I am, who are you?’ But to give the members something about: ‘I realized your wife died, how are you doing? Are you able to make it to Church? Do you need somebody to come and bring Communion?’ To be able to follow those kinds of questions.

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- What we ran in the past is by Easter, maybe, there's Easter basket that somebody else had put together and wants to take them to the client, but they found out the phone was not working, something's not updated. So hopefully, this list will be updated twice a year.
  - Mary's half-way through the script to be shared to the members.
  - 4. There are **120-130 clients** on the list- Mary's eliminating some of them altogether because Mary does not have the number for them. Those in Amira Choice (previously Cherry Wood) since we see them every week when we do the Eucharistic Service, so we don't need to touch base with them because we already are. Some of them are caregivers and she's better off calling them because that's more sensitive; so, she's taking them off the list.
  - 5. Hopefully by January, Mary would be able call the Parishioners on her spreadsheet, basically the Homebound and Nursing Home people. Just to see how they're doing. To see what we need to update; to see that we have all the right information.
- F. \*Update on POC's request to PLC- Sharing & Caring Hands' Request Details:**
1. Mary discussed with Marie the re-writing of the request form to PLC. Jim confirmed this is not necessary.
  2. Below are Jim's questions about the recommendation forms:
    - 1) **Blanket Collection**
      - a. Is this a new ask, like for Parishioners? Yes
      - b. Are you in need of a collection spot/basket? Information Desk or Mary's Office
      - c. Who will manage that? Sharing & Caring Hands
      - d. Can this be a drive that happens just in January? Not a drive but an ongoing collection as people come through with their donations
    - 2) **Hygiene Bag Collection**
      - a. Is this something that goes on all through the year? Yes
      - b. Can we have this just in June? It must be on-going until we reach 200 bags
      - c. Who will be responsible for collection? Sharing and Caring Hands
      - d. Where will be the collection site/basket? Box in the Coat Room
    - 3) **Father Paul's concerns**
      - a. Right now, we have ten months out of the year that we are being asked for donations, and so just the way that it is written, is this a year-round thing, or is this like every month or is it just couple of times a year? That's why we said January or June. Jim thinks it is doable since it's not going to be a huge thing like we're collecting bags of food.
        - **Mary:** it's just a year-round thing, run it in the Bulletin, occasionally, reminding people to bring it in.
      - b. Father does not want the Parish staff to be consumed by the work. It will all be done by volunteers. The need for a lot of items seems like you've got multiple churches

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that would probably be working on them, then we'll just be responsible for two months' work. Not necessarily at any given time.

- **Mary:** We'll just plan on at least **200 bags**
  
- c. Another idea Jim is thinking of is, as we're doing events here, we may ask people to bring, like, oral hygiene stuff like tubes of toothpaste.
- d. Father Paul was talking of all the things that we ask Parishioners to do throughout the year and he was able to list something off every single month except for two. Jim thought, we're doing a lot, that's fantastic. But at some point, we've worried that we were asking too much. Is there just a year commitment?
  - **Mary:** they are looking for somebody who will continue to do it. Mary Jo just said that there's a Parish that did it and now they could not do it anymore and so she's asked Marty if we could. There are Parishes that are not doing all the outreach that we are, that could probably do this easily enough
  - **Jim:** he's been an advocate of getting other Parishes involved because it will sustain itself. If you're doing it by yourself and then suddenly something happens and we don't have the support of our Parishioners for whatever reason, all those things will go away. But if we have a group of five or six Parishes, one person can pull out then another person can join without harm.
  - **Mary:** For now, we've got Marty who's in-charge of Sharing and Caring Hands and he's all in. The next person who takes over for him might not have that, so we might run into a storage issue in the future. Right now, it works well.

**G. Old Business:**

**1. 2023 Bulletin shorts**

MONTH	MINISTRY
January	Respect Life
February	Faithfully Fit
March	Sharing & Caring Hands

**2. Liaison-** Who's the liaison for what group. We're adding Carol to the group. Marie will put this on next month's agenda.

**3. Mission: What SJB will offer**

- a. **Marie:** It's the Mission Projects that needs SJB's approval. She's working on but she did not have her document sent out for everybody to look at.  
**Mary:** that's the question of the Foreign Missions vetted and approved. What do we get from that vetting and approval? How does that change how we interact with the Parish?
- b. **Marie:** we have some good ideas we can talk about later.
- c. She's going to send her document and we will talk about it next month



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**H. New Business: Hosting PLC Hospitality – 1/21 – 1/22**

**Marie:** A reminder to the Sunday volunteers, please reach out to Melissa Berg ([bergm@stjohnnyb.org](mailto:bergm@stjohnnyb.org)) to meet her one Sunday morning after Mass to learn how to make the coffee prior to our date

<b>Date/Mass Time</b>	<b>Saturday, Jan 21</b>	<b>Sunday, Jan 22</b>
8:30AM		Gwen, Carolyn & Lesia
10:30AM		Louie & Socchie, Mary
4:30PM	Joni, Marie & Cheryl	

**I. Three Items for tonight’s PLC**

1. Request to start praying for the **Compassion Connect Clinic**
2. POC Spreadsheet of Clients
3. Update on SJBNNB after Mass Hosting PLC Hospitality

**Closing prayer:** Mary Kohlhaas

**Next Meeting:** January 17

**Next Meeting Dates:** February 14, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 13

<p>Minutes approved by: Mary Kohlhaas, Pastoral Ministry Office</p>	<p>Minutes recorded by: Socchie Fondevilla</p>
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