

Saint John the Baptist – Pastoral Outreach Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date:	Tues., Nov. 19, 2024, 6:30pm	Recorder	Socchie Fondevilla	Chair:	Marie Zimmerman
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Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present
Louie Fondevilla	X	Marie Zimmerman	X
Socchie Fondevilla	X	Carolyn Brandt	X
Mary Kohlhaas (Staff Liaison)	X	Jeannie Koslowski	X
Joni Metz	X	Nilo Asio	X
Cheryl Puffer		Father Derek Gilde (Staff)	
Joe Sevick (Guest- Hearing Impaired Ministry)	X	Greg Beyer (PLC Chair. Guest)	X

- A. Opening Prayer: Nilo
- B. Tonight’s Agenda was approved.
- C. **PLC Question** - In light of the Grateful Hearts Growing Together Campaign and the emphasis on our Core Values what are you most grateful for from our Lord?

POC members are grateful for the daily Masses, the gift of faith, the provisions, daily bread & sustenance which enable us to commit to the love offerings, for being able to volunteer in the Kidz Closet & realize that people are so nice with their generosity in volunteering to sort through the many donations; being able to meet and talk to families in need. We also are grateful to our Lord for opening our hearts in helping with our talent, time and treasures to uplift the lives of others. We also thank God for our service to the homebound, being with them constantly.

D. Pastoral Ministry Coordinator Update:

1. **Curanotis** is a computer program we are putting to use for Pastoral Care. It is particularly for keeping track of volunteers and the Parishioners that we visit. The volunteers will be responsible in updating each visit on their phones or computer devices. Joni & Jean are exceptionally good at it and are helping implement the program. Its pilot roll-out will be at the Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion (EMHC) training on Saturday, November 23 from 8:30AM (Mass) till noon. The real roll-out will be in January.
2. **All Saints Party (ASP)**- It went well. Mary thanked those volunteers who painted the 325 clementines, set-up & manned the table. The kids loved the clementines; we have very few leftovers this time.
3. **Anointing Mass**- We have 110 people who came. The Sacrament of the Sick last Nov 9 at 10:30AM was at the Church. Mary liked the way our priests went around the pews to anoint & give Communion to the sick; some of them are in wheelchairs, walkers & cranes and would have

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a hard time coming down the aisle. She is grateful to the volunteers at the registration and to those who serve lunch afterwards.

4. **Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion (EMHC)**- Training and commissioning at the end is on Saturday, November 23 after the optional 8:30AM Mass. It is kind of re-grouping after two years (last training was in 2022); somebody described it as ‘raking the leaves together’. Along with the Curanotis, we would be able to figure out who the EM’s are & what they are doing, who’s retired, who’s waiting for another parishioner to visit. It is also time for finding new people. Brunch will be served. Needs volunteers.
5. **Mercy Reins**- For the Seniors, a visit to the [Mercy Reins Ranch](#) on Sunday, Dec 1 in Stillwater, where there is a live Nativity. It is an hour and a half program. A couple of carloads will go. Stop at Mac’s Diner in North St. Paul for dinner on the way back. It is a place that has supported Mary’s Meals fundraising. **Action Item:** Needs drivers.
6. **Advent Small Group**- Mary is planning to hold small group from November to January with 7-8 women who comes to a monthly Young at Heart meeting. They decided on the topic ‘Angels and the Supernatural’.
7. **Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, WI** – As of Nov. 18, there were 85 people who have signed up (other participating Ministries: Worship Ministry, Men's Groups, Youths) to the forthcoming pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sat., Dec 7. Two buses have been reserved and Mary needs to call the company by next week if we need a third one. total can be for 150 people to join. All Commissions are invited to encourage their Ministries, families and friends to register before the 27th of November, for a fee of \$25/person which covers bus fares and lunch. We pay for our own dinner on the way home. We will have Mass, Adoration and a tour of the grounds.
8. **Young at Heart**- Advent Party on Saturday, Dec 14 at 1:00-3:30PM. It usually gets a good turnout. **Action Item:** Needs volunteers to help plan the program; for some new ideas on what to do that day.
9. **The new ‘Divorced Ministry’ coming for Adult Ministry**- this new ministry is going to be under Claire’s Adult Ministry. POC has 21 Ministries, and Mary is just thankful for realizing from the Ministry Fair all the volunteers that make POC up and running well.
10. **Journeying through Grief**- To honor our deceased loved ones during these Holidays, there were 23 people who participated in the night of Memorial of Remembrance, last Thursday, November 14 at the Church. This memorial prayer service was connected to the Sacrament of Baptism with the three sides of the baptismal font, surrounded by long low benches decorated with white linen covers & lighted votive candles. The Easter candle by the Great Door. The All-Souls Day candles (not yet picked up by their relatives) were all lit as well, so they were represented too. During the prayer session, the participants were called one by one, according to their loss. The photos or memorabilia of loved ones lost are offered to the altar and each one takes a lighted candle then says the name of the person. It was beautiful that moved all of us to light a candle for our beloved one. Father Derek Gilde led us in prayers. There were moments of reflection facilitated by Deacon Michael. Anne’s parents are the source of the service itself, which we tweaked a bit. Reception followed. Mary is just finishing the invitation to the one in December.

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E. Old Business:

- a. **Core Commitment Drive**- POC participated in the Ministry Fair (Theme: Grateful Hearts Growing Together) last weekend Nov 16-17. All the Ministries involved prepared signage, brochures with information on what the Ministry does.

2. 2024 Bulletin Shorts

MONTH	MINISTRY	COMMENTS
November	EMHC, Quilters, SVdP, Respect Life	
December	Journeying through Grief, YAH, etc.	Mary
January	Faithfully Fit	Jean
February	TBD	

3. Hygiene Bags Campaign Challenge

- a. In the January Commission meeting, we are going to challenge all commissions to bring as many hygiene bags as they can; Cheryl might talk about it on behalf of POC sharing & Caring Hands. We will tell people to bring them to the February Commission meeting as they are coming in. Some of us will be counting them per Commission.
- b. After dinner we will announce the prize for the Commission which brings the most bags.
- c. Mary will send an e-mail to let Cheryl & Marty know of the plans.

4. 2024-2025 Fiscal Year-End Statistics -

- a. The 2024-2025 POC Year-End worksheet was presented to Marie.

Action Items:

- The worksheet has been edited to correct the measures of the items to be reported.
- Each liaison will send their reports to Socchie. Example: hygiene bags in the closet will have to be counted by Marty & reported to Cheryl,
- Socchie will update it with the quarterly submissions from the Ministries.
- The plan is to request Joseph to post the approved worksheet on the SJB web, as a google sheet where all liaisons will be able to access & edit it. For now, let's test it first.

- b. The schedule of 2024 Quarterly submissions:

FISCAL QUARTER	THREE-MONTH PERIOD	DUE ON
Q3	Jul-Sept	October
Q4	Oct-Dec	January
Q1	Jan-March	April
Q2	Apr-June	July

F. New Business:

1. Vetting –

- a. Re-vetting the international Missions: Mary's Meals and Bridging Liberia
- b. The Vetting Committee: Marie, Nilo and Carolyn will start the process in January.

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- c. Mary will send the guidelines to the team. She will also send the letter to the fund-raising applicant.
 - d. Since FOCUS is an Archdiocesan- recognized program, like NET it does not have to be vetted. It is already universally accepted.
 - e. For youths who are parishioners asking for support on the missions they are bringing to us, we should have parameters. Greg will ask and will come back to Marie or Mary
2. **Review & update of the [2024-2025 POC Goals](#).** Add:
- “Compile Stats–ongoing” – done.
 - “Check that web pages are current at least yearly” – done.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Put in numbers: how many clementines, how many came to Anointing Mass, etc.
- Put in the DMI (for next meeting’s agenda); update the Re-vetting of Missions.
- Change the dates of start & completion.
- Socchie to update the 2024-2025 POC Goals & status.

3. Hearing-Impaired Ministry

- a. Tonight's POC guest, Joe Sevick presented the Assistive Hearing Devices available for our parishioners & guests attending Masses & Church indoor events, who have hearing aids and other hearing needs.
- b. The device is called a ListenRF, a radio receiver which delivers exceptionally clear, crisp, immediate sound right to the user’s ears, in our case from the overall church sound system. He demonstrated how the device’s receiver port connects easily with any single & double earbuds, headsets or headphones and ear loops. If you have t-coil (telecoil)-enabled hearing aids, use the special t-coil loop, and skip earpieces. The user does not have to wear his/her hearing aid. These devices are on its charging station located at a display pole at the top of the east ramp on the way to the sacristy near the library under the ‘Help for Better Hearing’ sign.
- c. Instructions on how to use it are posted by the charging station.
- d. POC members are invited to pass the word that Joe is ok to do similar presentations to other Commissions, Ministries, or groups in the parish and to help advertise the availability of this device.

G. Three+ items for PLC

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1. Tonight's POC Guest, Joe Sevick of the Hearing-Impaired Ministry, presented the Assistive Hearing Devices available for our parishioners & guests with hearing aids or other hearing needs. Please pass the word that presentation is available to inform all about it.
2. The Curanotis Pilot Training is to be integrated with the Eucharistic Ministry Training on Saturday, November 23 from 8:30AM (Mass- optional) till noon.
3. Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Two buses have been reserved and a third one might be open if we hit the target of 150 people to join. All Commissions are invited to encourage their Ministries, families, and friends to register before the 27th of November, for a fee of \$25/person that includes bus fares and lunch.

Closing prayer: Greg

Next Meeting: December 10

2024-2025 PLC_POC Meeting Dates: Jan 21, Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 22, May 20, June 10

Minutes recorded by:
Socchie Fondevilla

Minutes approved by:
Marie Zimmerman- POC Chair