

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

Date:	Tues., Jan 21, 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	
Cheryl Puffer	X	Father Derek Gilde (Staff)	

A. Opening Prayer: Jeannie

B. Tonight’s Agenda of the Meeting, after a few addendums, was approved.

C. Pastoral Ministry Coordinator Update:

1. Divine Mercy Prayer Team Update

- a. Father Paul has approved this Ministry. Three members visit and pray for those nearing death.
- b. The Ministry is going to reach out through the Bulletin to invite new member volunteers and to make St. John’s Parishioners aware that if they want prayers for their dying loved ones, this Ministry is available and for those interested, they can call Mary. The team had printed business cards which the priests can give out when they are called, together with the pamphlets with all information.
- c. This service is, for now, available to those (Parish members and non-members) living around our Parish boundaries which go around the Senior Centers that we service, Amira on Cleveland, Bel Rae Senior & Assisted Living towards the shopping center on Highway 10, Brightondale Senior Living Apartments by Rice Creek Road, St. Anthony Health & Rehabilitation in St. Anthony, Johanna Shores- Presbyterian Homes & Services (Assisted & Memory Care), Langton Place Nursing Home in county Rd. D W and the new one Round Lake by Highway 10. There are exceptions like those who had been Parish members for a long time and has now moved outside our school districts and boundaries.
- d. Jeannie is preparing a training plan and orientation on what the Ministry would look like.

2. Curanotis Update

- a. POC volunteers have already done an immense amount of work in putting in and organizing data.
- b. We’re now in a place where we clean up our EMHC list (which Mary had gone through) of inactive volunteers, who they see or not. We also need to have information about Virtus certification & whether they have done their background check. Some need to fill out the volunteer form, about 31 people, we need to make phone calls to find out if they’re still

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

interested in taking a homebound & Senior Centers service, for some, apart from their current nursing home's work. Do we activate some of them or are they retirees? Mary will send us a list of questions. We also want their clients' information and contact information.

3. Prayer Shawl Ministry

a. A parishioner has asked to start a Prayer Shawl Ministry. The quilters were open to it as well. It will be something we will present in tandem. They will give the shawls away to people who want them just as the quilters do. She's going to put an ad in the Bulletin for those interested to come to a meeting. In Mary Mother of the Church & All Saints the prayer shawls are in a corner where they have a logbook to sign details such as who's giving it away and to whom.

4. The Hearing Assistance Ministry needs to be moved. Mary is considering the center wall between the two doors going to St. Joseph's Hall, with the narrow table with the Statue on it. It has an outlet and enough wall space for the display. It will also be within the eyeshot of the clerk in case they need help and if they're talking about what best works for them, it will not be in the Church. It's also in the central location for whichever exit to come in.

5. The Pilgrimages: St. Michael Catholic Church, Our Lady of the Champion & Stillwater

- a. Mary was in St. Michael in December & noticed that lots of paintings have been finished. Mosaics, the Stations of the Cross.
- b. There's more talk of going for a pilgrimage, perhaps to St. Michael Catholic church in spring for the seniors.
- c. Father Derek would like us to go to his hometown in Stillwater and we can discuss his conversion story.
- d. Mary had an annual meeting with CCRO on Saturday and somebody who has a ministry called Widows of Hope and she does pilgrimages in conjunction with the widows and she would like to do a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Champion in Wisconsin. This one is another plan in the future, we don't need to plan it.

6. The 9-Hour Respect Life Novena is tomorrow Wednesday, January 22 starting at the 8:30 morning Mass. All Churches, starting from the East Coast will be ringing their bells (Bells for Life) as a call for prayer for the unborn ('Death to Children in the Womb') due to abortion. St. John's Parish encourages all to participate in this Novena. The prayer guide to this Nine Hour Novena for Life (with specific petition for each hour, including newly birthed as well) is for pickup at the Harvest table.

7. Nursing Home Ministry Update- Fr. Derek started doing more in the Nursing Home facilities we have been servicing on a regular basis by holding Anointing Masses & Confessions. He also wants to know who those people are by trying to get rosters from the Care Centers. For cases where we may not be provided with a list, EMHC volunteers will go to people and get their details. This way we will have better accountability, for SJB School's annual greeting cards for homebound project and also for us to be able to know who has passed.

Saint John the Baptist – Pastoral Outreach Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes

D. Old Business:

1. SJB Vetting Process–

- a. **Re-vetting the international Missions:** Marie, Nilo & Carolyn are going to meet after this meeting tonight to go over and finalize the letter we’re going to send for the re-vetting by the end of this weekend to give them a month to get their stuff together. The team hopes to do what we needs done by May.

2. 2025 Bulletin Shorts

MONTH	MINISTRY	COMMENTS
February		
March	Sharing & Caring Hands	Cheryl
April	Kidz Closet	Joni

3. Hygiene Bags Campaign Challenge

- a. Tonight, POC launched the Hygiene Bags Campaign challenge to all Commissions. We encourage all to bring as many hygiene bags as they can at the February Commission meeting for Sharing and Caring Hands.
- b. Earlier, the printed lists of bag’s contents were on the dinner tables for pickup by the Commission members.
- c. Cheryl is giving information to Claudia to ask if she will send our reminders to the PLC members
- d. The bags will be dropped off the Sharing & Caring table. POC will need to bring boxes & 4 plastic laundry bags for the collections.
- e. POC members will have to be early (around 5:00pm) at the PLC meeting and will be counting the bags as they come in then add them up to determine the Commission that brought the greatest number of bags.
- f. After dinner we will announce the winning Commission

4. Review & update of the [2024-2025 POC Goals](#). ACTION ITEM: to delete first item Curanotis-Done

- 5. **Infertility Ministry-** In January, a parishioner couple will start a small group of those experiencing infertility in their married lives. They intend to meet on Mondays once a month at 8:00-10:00PM in their residence. This new ministry's faith sharing program includes communal prayers, sharing of experiences and resources and fellowship. The ministry's goal is to foster relationships with other couples in order to build a community that they can turn to during the challenging times.

E. New Business

1. CSC Donation

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

- a. Bill Spitzmiller has stepped down and is replaced by Mary Bacha as SJB new rep to CSC. Bill has checked with us about sending our usual check of \$3,500. Mary checked with Michelle about this and said that we had done this last fall of 2024. So, Bill was just checking on whether this had been done to hand it over to Mary.
2. **Transportation for Parishioners** to/from Church or appointments.
 - a. Currently, parishioners, most of whom are elderly people & homebound Seniors, from time to time are in need of ride services to clinic and hospital visits or going to the Church. Catholic Mutual Insurance will not allow us to give or arrange rides.
 - b. We discussed several suggestions including utilizing Uber or Lyft, Metro Mobility, but none seem safe, efficient or recommendable.
 - c. POC is suggesting the possibility of opening a Taxi Service Account. We looked into the availability of taxi services in the area, found several.
 - d. This is one POC's item for recommendation to the GMT Funds.
3. **Discuss Go Make Teach Fund-**
 - a. There will be money for Pastoral Outreach above and beyond what they're doing for endowment. POC understands that there will be some money for Pastoral Care to use but if they put it in the endowment, this money will be more.
 - b. POC hopes to cover the Taxi Service Account expenditure, and money for speakers for the Seniors, etc. from these funds.
4. **Suggested Topics for Seniors**
 - a. Mary May will do End-of Life (Medical directives) in spring- POC will participate by helping to promote it.
 - b. **ACTION ITEM:** E-mail Mary any ideas on topics for Seniors

F. Three+ items for PLC

1. Hygiene Bags Campaign Challenge (January & February)
2. Transportation for seniors
3. Respect Life Novena

Closing prayer: Socchie

Next Meeting: February 18

2025 PLC_POC Meeting Dates: Mar 18, Apr 22, May 20, June 10

Minutes recorded by:
Socchie Fondevilla

Minutes approved by:
Marie Zimmerman- POC Chair