

St. Joseph Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Attendees:

Eugene Holub, Chad Ehler, Pete Zenner, Minnie Pesl, and Father John Boiko

- Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Father opened the meeting with a prayer. The minutes of our November 25th meeting were read individually and approved; Pete made the 1st motion to approve with no official 2nd motion. (New members, Minnie and Chad, were not at the previous meeting.)

- New Pastoral Council Members

Minnie Pesl, representing the Ladies Altar Society and Chad Ehler, representing the Saturday Mass, were in attendance for the first time. Eugene's replacement on the Pastoral Council for representation of the 9 am Mass on Sunday was discussed; the nomination process will take place in January with final voting to follow. Again, it was discussed that whoever is elected must become EIM certified, if they are not already.

- Deacon Gus

Father John discussed the status of Deacon Gus and told the council that he had decided to step down. An appreciation dinner was discussed, and the dates of January 25th and February 1st were mentioned. It was ultimately decided that February 1st would be the date of the dinner at the KC Hall. The dinner would be potluck with alphabetized assignments sent out for meats, vegetables, and desserts. The dinner would take place after the 11:30 Mass.

- Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee, headed by Pete Zenner, has met four times. The name of the "Mayfest" was discussed. It was brought up by Father that the annual festival (going forward) may not always occur in May for various unforeseen reasons. Ideas for other names were bantered around. It was decided that the official name will be decided at the next committee meeting. Pete was pleased to report that there are a lot of people volunteering, but we will need more as the date draws closer. There will also be more requests from the committee for donations.

- Building Project

The need for parking space was discussed. This need is occurring now and is anticipated to get worse long before any sort of master plan is realized. Some people are already parking in the newly acquired property. This works unless there is rain and the property becomes muddy where ruts are likely to occur. Father brought up the idea of naming the “Cooke House” and the properties, including the area between the “Cooke House” and the Education Building. It was generally agreed upon the new name for the “Cooke House” should be the “Dominican House” in tribute to the Dominicans in our parish. It was mentioned that maybe we should have an official ceremony to make the name. No other names were proposed for the property areas. The council should canvass their constituents.

- Maintenance:

More discussion was held on regular maintenance of the parish buildings and facilities. This has been done on a volunteer basis in the past, but a more timely maintenance operation is needed. The Finance Committee needs to weigh in on this. They will be meeting on January 29th. Father also brought up the fact that we need much better lighting around the parish facilities. Current lighting around the church is outdated and uses LED daylight sensing bulbs. All outside church fixtures need to be updated. The Education Building is in better shape with newer lighting. The church bell system needs a new amplifier. The money will come from the special Church building fund. The cost is \$1625. The payment is in process. The speaker in the cry room area has not been working. Eugene will fix it. Also, a request that the TV be utilized again in the cry room has been made. Eugene will see what it will take to get it working again with the cameras.

- Organization Reports

- The KC representative was not present due to conflicting meetings.
- No one was present to represent the Guadalupanas.
- The Ladies Altar Society voted to donate \$1000 to the raffle for “Mayfest”. It was also reported that the annual bazar made over \$6000.

- Church Sign

Eugene reported that a 4’ x 8’ 2-sided aluminum sign (coated) would run somewhere between \$550 and \$750 from information he found on the internet. He then showed the council some preliminary designs. Some changes were suggested. He will make those changes and get Father’s approval before moving forward. He will also contact Rockdale Signs to get a bid from them. Lighting for the sign was talked about. It was decided that we just need to install the sign first then see if we could do something inexpensive to light it up since this may not be the permanent location of the sign in the long run.

- Social Ministry Guidelines

Father John is asking for the council to come up with guidelines for social ministry at our parish. There was a discussion about how Gloria Pedroza was handling it and how we are handling it now. Eugene volunteered to meet with Gloria Pedroza and Margaret Coker to come up with a draft of guidelines. Father suggested that he thought Gloria could become the Social Minister for our parish. All seemed to agree that made a lot of sense considering her background.

- 150th Parish Anniversary in 2030

Father John wants the parish to start having events each year leading up to the 150th parish anniversary in 2030. The topic was discussed with some of these brainstorm ideas:

- Special Masses
- Reunions of all parishioners, current and former
- A design contest for commemorative shirts that could be sold
- Begin advertisements in the bulletin and on the website maybe talking about the history of the parish
- Planning for some sort of Museum exhibit, maybe set up in the “Dominican House”

- Website

Eugene mentioned that a new item in the Ministries/Groups drop down menu was added for the Fund Raising Committee. Minutes from the main meeting and subcommittee meetings may be found there, as long as he receives them via email.

- Other Business

The council discussed the closing of the doors between the narthex and the main church so that there would be less disturbance during the Rosary prior to Mass. A brief discussion was held about finding another piano player to help out Pat and take over when she retires at the end of 2027. Jose Mora’s name was mentioned as a replacement. The same was discussed about finding a replacement for the webmaster and FlockNote administrator (Eugene).

- It was announced that Confirmation Mass will be March 8th at 3:00 pm.

- Masses

Pete started a discussion about the length of the Masses and the volume of the speaker system in the church. Eugene will check the volume settings.

- The next meeting was scheduled for February 3rd, after the 6pm Mass.
- The meeting was adjourned with a prayer from Father at 8:40 pm.