

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, January 8, 2025

Welcome

The meeting was opened by Becki Kaman, Archdiocese of Baltimore (AoB) Parish Renewal Specialist, who has been assisting the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) with the creation of a new Parish Pastoral Plan (PPP). Becki outlined the objectives for the meeting and led an opening prayer.

Parish Pastoral Plan Discussion

The following discussion points were led by Becki Kaman

The revised parish Vision Statement currently reads:

SJCC will be the Spiritual, moral, and social heart of Eldersburg and the surrounding area through encounters with Jesus Christ

Becki cautioned against the use of the acronym SJCC in the vision statement because the abbreviated words may not be known to all who read it. SJCC is an acronym for St. Joseph's Catholic Community.

Fr. John stated that he preferred St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

Gwen Lilly advised research into the initial decision to use the word Community, stating its use may have been a decision of the AoB due to the existence of several other Parishes in surrounding counties with the name, St. Joseph. The decision to use St. Joseph's Catholic Church will depend on the findings of Gwen's investigation.

The Parish Plan will be centered on **Welcome**.

Goals:

1. **Expand the welcome ministry** to be present throughout the parish, especially at annual events (Breakfast with St. Nick, Block Party, St. Joseph's festival, Lenten dinners). A steering committee will be formed headed by Jane Miller to include leaders/members of the existing Welcome Ministry. The committee's focus will be to identify ways to circulate and connect with event attendees to promote inclusion, and to create a training template for individuals willing to participate. PPC members suggested several parishioners with gifts in this area, who will be invited to join the steering committee. The goal is to begin implementation with the onset of the Lenten Dinners in March and have full launch by the September Block Party.
2. **Evangelization Formation** will be an integral part of creating a culture of prayer, welcome, and evangelization at St. Joseph's Church. This formation will include

first, a basic, introductory training (given by Becki) to cover Witness (sharing your story), Kerygma – Salvation (sharing THE story of the Gospels), and Prayer (inviting others to pray with you). Second, a more in-depth training of ministry leaders (given by Becki) to include Missionary Discipleship, Core Mission Priorities, and Discipleship Pathway. This will be a precursor to the completion of the ministry assessments by the ministry leaders. The Ministry Assessments will guide the ministries in expanding their focus to include the goals of the PPC, and guide the PPC in completing the PPP through evaluation of the current ministries offered, ministry objectives, and potential gaps or redundancies. A charism assessment will follow to assist ministry volunteers in discerning how to best direct their efforts. In consideration of the large number of ministries and the effect change may have within an organization, a subcommittee will be formed to identify ways to facilitate the formation trainings, and to assist with communicating the purpose of the assessments in development and implementation of the PPP. Tim, Stephen, and Terry Morse agreed to form the subcommittee.

3. **Evangelizing** efforts: IN, FORWARD, BACK: IN refers to those we hope to welcome in the church. FORWARD refers to those currently involved with the church. BACK refers to those who have left the church and we hope to welcome back.

Closing Prayer

Attendance

PPC Members: Fr. John Worgul, Rachel Wandishin, Stephen Paskvich, Tim Brantley, Laurie Facius, Mark Steinbrunner, and Jane Miller

MC Members: Tony Gioio

Corporators: Gwen Lilly, and Terry Morse

AoB Office of Parish Renewal, Emmaus Team Member: Becki Kaman

Pastoral Team: Daniel Rosa