

St Mark Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes, Jan 13, 2024

Meeting held in person Saturday, Jan 13, 2024 led by Gina Olsen

**Present:** Gina Olsen, Fr Maurer, Paul Sundberg, Doug Park, Mary Ann Draye (recorder)

**Opening Prayer:** led by Fr Maurer

**Quote** shared by Paul: “ The first end I propose in our daily work is to do the will of God; secondly, to do it in the manner He wills it; and thirdly to do it because it is His will.”

St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton

**Review of December minutes:** Correction / Additions: Paul Sundberg was not in attendance in December.

Item II: Finance Council is eager to hear the results of the work by Pastoral Council on priorities. Minutes adopted and will be published.

Old Business

**Agenda item #3. Prioritization of parish ministries/activities:** Council concluded categorizing the remainder of parish priorities. Mass times are a **pressing need** as consolidation of mass time will need to occur before the new pastor arrives. Changes to mass times should be made 1-2 weeks prior to arrival of new priest. We should collaborate with other 2 parishes on this. In the stable category: Confirmation prep has some new leaders including a young couple. Will require some attention next year. First Communion prep currently has 4-5 leaders. Collaboration with other 2 parishes may increase the number of volunteers available and strengthen these programs. Check other parish websites regarding these prep programs. In the shaky category: Movie nights, Women’s Group(s), Prayer Group. Need for leadership and more members is common to all of these. Although sad, if they were to discontinue, the parish would survive. The Women’s Group might be able to evolve to become stronger and provide even greater capacity to sponsor parish events. In the crisis category: Community events/ parish family gatherings. The Council agrees this should be an **immediate need** in the timeline of priorities. Efforts should be made to bring as many people together in our new parish family as soon and as often as possible. Longer term events are placed in the 6 months timeline. Youth Group/ CCD, Adult Catechesis , AMAs/ catechesis, Events/ Missions/ Devotions, Respect Life will benefit from collaboration with other parishes and fall into the 6 month timeline. Welcoming/ Registration. Council agrees this is an immediate need, particularly welcoming. Registration will need to be updated for all 3 parishes, including surveying parishioner interest areas. Therefore registration is within the 12 months timeline whereas welcoming committee is an **immediate need**.

**Agenda item #4. Advancing Priorities:** The Council discussed how to advance and implement the categorized priorities using the congregational or council option outlined by the Council leadership.

Congregational Option

1. Lectors/ Ushers Sunday & weekdays
2. Sacristans Sunday & weekdays
3. Coffee Hour Coordinator/ Procurement

4. Altar Servers Coordinator/ Scheduler Sundays & weekdays
5. Items Father has published in Jan 14<sup>th</sup> Bulletin

Council Option Involves developing or altering current charter for the group; create a mission/ goals statement. Limit: 1 page

1. Welcoming Committee- Mary Ann
2. Community events/ parish family gatherings- Dirk
3. Baptism prep- Doug

Council plans a letter from the P Council to the parish addressing the need for volunteers. Gina will draft

**Agenda item #5 School liaison.** Discussed the possibility of a member from the School Commission to be a liaison to our Council meetings as well as inviting principal Kathy to attend and update us at a future meeting. Paul will contact Kathy.

Meeting closed with a Act of Hope prayer

Adjournment 12:04 pm

**Next meeting: February 17, 2024 10:30 am NOTE this is one week later than usual**