

# Catholic Community of Waukesha Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

## Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Meeting held at Vercelli House at St. William from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

### Mission Statement

We, the Catholic Community of Waukesha, transformed by the Holy Spirit, worship God, follow Christ through Gospel centered lives, celebrate our diversity, and welcome, love and serve all.

### Members of the Pastoral Council

**Meeting Participants** (☒ = present, ☐ = not present)

Priests	Present		Priests	Present	
Fr. Patrick Heppe			Fr. Matthew Widder		x
Fr. Jorge Perez			Fr. Chuck Wrobel		
Parish Staff					
Rob Olejniczak					
Representing St. John Neumann	Present	Year	Representing St. Joseph	Present	Year
Mike DuPont (vice chair)	x	3	Tina Gutierrez (stewardship)	x	3
Timothy LeRoy	x	2	Kathy Arquette (prayer & worship)	x	2
Rudy Spiering	x	1	Irene Soto		1
Robin Wiedenhoef (trustee)			Fidel Jaramillo (trustee)	x	
John MacGregor (trustee)(exc)	x		Raquel Jara (trustee)	x	
Representing St. Mary	Present	Year	Representing St. William	Present	Year
Nancy Knapp (secretary) (school)	x	3	Peg Pechulis (prayer & worship)		3
Jim Ebben (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	x	2	Gwen Mosier	x	2
Kristen Mihelich	x	1	Mark Rzeznik (chair) (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	x	1
Jason Pechloff (trustee)	x		Mike Bassi (trustee)		
Regge Krueger (trustee)	x		Jennifer Roubik (trustee)	x	

## Meeting Agenda

Time	Topic	Who	Discussion Summary and Next Steps
6:45 – 7:00	Gathering and Fellowship	All	
7:00 – 7:15	Welcome Opening Prayer Mission Statement Councilors Intro	Irene Tina and Tim Sanchez	April Prayer: Mark April Councilors Intro: Rob and Fr Pat
7:15 – 7:20	February Meeting Minutes Consensus		yes
7:20-7:40	Pastor's Report		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new associate pastor will be assigned to CCW, He will be appointed by Archbishop ListECKI who will take in consideration the recommendation of the Priest Placement Board. By our April Pastoral Council meeting, we should know who the new associate pastor will be and know where Father Chuck's new assignment will be- both of which are effective in June.</li> <li>• Archbishop ListECKI will continue in his position until the Pope names his successor.</li> <li>• The Neo Cat catechesis meetings are being held every Monday and Thursday at 7pm in St. Mary's Community Room. The attendance has been good with the desire for more young people's involvement being expressed. Those who have attended are anxious to see what follows these catechesis sessions. Tina gave witness to the blessing of the Neo-Catechetical Way for her family.</li> <li>• Work on the Perpetual Adoration Chapel at St. John Neumann continues. Before details were even published, 80 people had signed up for an hour adoration slot- truly a sign of the work of the Holy Spirit. Father Matthew suggested that the Pastoral Council might consider signing up for an hour where different members could pray for the work of the Council on behalf of CCW. Sign-up for available hour slots can be found at <a href="mailto:adoration@ccwaUK.org">adoration@ccwaUK.org</a>. There is some disagreement on improvements needed for the new chapel- an effort is being</li> </ul>

			<p>made to ensure all suggestions are being heard before final decisions are made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Father Matthew reported that overall reaction to the merger has been positive. Two reactions stand out- I thought we were one and why has it taken so long. Pastoral Council members are reminded to refer any parishioners with concerns to the website <a href="mailto:merger@ccwauk.org">merger@ccwauk.org</a> or to share those names with Father Matthew for personal follow-up.</li> <li>• The merger of the 4 parishes will be complete 7/1/2025. The school will join the new parish, but that date is currently uncertain due to financial issues pertaining to School Choice. The hope is that in April the Archdiocese and school will have a better idea when that aspect of the merger will be complete.</li> <li>• Fr. Matthew has written a letter signed by the trustees and Pastoral Council Executive Team which will be submitted to Archbishop ListECKI for his approval of the merger.</li> <li>• Further communication on the progress of the merger will begin after the celebration of Easter.</li> <li>• Father Matthew assured the Pastoral Council that there are no immediate plans for his reassignment. In fact, the number of years he has served as pastor returns to zero after the merger.</li> </ul>
7:40-8:05	Merger: next steps	Rob and Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The <b>Merger Planning Team</b> consists of current trustees, PC Executive Committee, Michael Laird-Director of Mission and Planning for the Archdiocese, Father Matthew, Lisa Kovaleski (plus one), Nick, Cassie, Rob <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will meet monthly to review status, identify issues, provide consult, make decisions</li> <li>• Will communicate between meetings</li> <li>• Will meet once merger is complete to identify issues and adjust</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>8 Merger Work Teams</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Finance <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recommend process and solutions for all fiscal responsibilities</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Asses the state of all parish and school buildings and prepare recommendations for near term and long term utilization</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review, recommend and draft all communication required for the merger process</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Parish Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop a new ministry plan that includes the leadership and organization of all things related to the mission of the new parish</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Human Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review all human resource needs and present recommendations for transition to new parish</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Legal and Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review and ensure that all legal, sacramental and administrative records protocol is followed</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Canonical- Barbara Anne- Arch Chancery</li> <li>▪ School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify key issues that must be addressed in the school's merging with our churches.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Work Teams Looking for a home</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Parish Name- Pastoral Council to lead</li> <li>• Events Honoring Past and Future- Communication Team to lead</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Key Milestones</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work teams confirmed and staffed</li> <li>2. Protocol for regular Merger Planning Team status meetings confirmed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• June 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work Teams plans and timetables reviewed with Merger Planning Team and approved by Fr. Matthew</li> <li>2. Project Tracking Chart developed and approved by Mark, Rob and Michael Laird and forwarded to work team leaders</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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8:05-8:15	Brew City Missionary Proposal	Fr. Matthew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two Brew City Missionaries have been active in our community this last year primarily serving Carroll University students and young adults</li> <li>• They have submitted a proposal for a long-term rental agreement for exclusive access to the parish offices at St. Joseph's (former convent)</li> <li>• They are currently using the lower level for small group meeting space</li> <li>• Under the proposal, the upstairs would be renovated for living space for the missionaries who must provide for their own housing</li> <li>• They have received a \$15,000 grant which would be used to paint, update bathrooms and separate living quarters with a wall for men/women missionaries</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This would entail the relocation of several SJ ministries such as the Food Pantry and auction offices</li> <li>• Fidel has offered to speak with Andy about the relocation plans</li> <li>• It was suggested in the future, parties effected by such decisions be informed at the onset to avoid any disappointment or displeasure</li> </ul>
8:15-8:20	Closing Prayer	All	
	<b>Next Pastoral Council Meeting:</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, April 17, 2024 in the Vercelli House at St. William's at 7:00</li> </ul>
	<b>Action Items</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next Common Commission meeting is May 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph's</li> </ul>

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**Commission Reports from Liaisons**

**Waukesha Catholic School Board (Nancy Knapp):**

1. Waiting on the recommendation of the Archdiocese on the feasibility of merging with the new parish-hoping to hear by the end of April.
2. The 2024-25 budget was approved with a 3% tuition increase. The budget is based on the projection of 441 students which included 128 School Choice Students and 7 Special Needs Scholarship students.
3. As of April 15, the school will be offering a "grab and go" breakfast option open to all students, similar to the lunch program.

**Faith Formation: (Mark Reznik):**

1. Eucharistic Miracles of the World Display- April 4th-7th
2. Healing the Whole Person Retreat - April 11-13, 2024 - need help with set-up
3. Planning for next year - changes in Middle School - Sundays only twice a month

**Human Concerns: (Gwen Mosier)**

1. With thanks and support of the Commission, Debbie Reuland and Julio Razo have agreed to co-chair the Human Concerns Commission. This is a 2-year commitment.
  2. April 29, 2024 “Who is My Neighbor” will be presented by Rob Shelledy, the Associate Executive Director of SVDP in Waukesha. This program will highlight the services offered by SVDP to immigrants and others who require assistance in a variety of needs. The event will be at St. Mary’s Community Room, 5:00pm – 7:30pm. This is a family program and will have interpretation provided if needed. Reach out to Linda Olbinski at eolbinski@yahoo.com or 262-227-0332.
  3. The Cantic Garden is an endeavor the Human Concerns Commission would like to support. First steps will be to develop a leadership team to also engage, recruit the CCW parishioners to help in the areas needed to get the Garden to completion. Chris Linder is the contact person at al.linder@att.net for more information.
  4. Save the Dates! CCW will host Simon Biagui and Vavette Hill-Nwagbaraocha, from the Archdiocese to share the documentary movie “A Place at the Table: African American on the Path to Sainthood”. This will be split up into two parts due to the length of the documentary and to field Q & A and learn more about our own journeys to sainthood.
- This will be a soup n substance event on 10/27/24 and 11/3/24 at St. Mary’s from 1-5. Details to follow

**Prayer and Worship: (Peg Pechulis):****Stewardship and Evangelization: (Tim LeRoy)*****Opening Prayer: Irene***

St. Joseph (flourished 1st century CE, Nazareth, Galilee, region of Palestine; principal feast day March 19, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker May 1) was, in the New Testament, Jesus’ earthly father and the Virgin Mary’s husband. St. Joseph is the patron of the universal church in Roman Catholicism, and his life is recorded in the Gospels, particularly Matthew and Luke. Joseph was a descendant of the house of King David.

After marrying Mary, he found her already pregnant and, “being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace” (Matthew 1:19), decided to divorce her quietly, but an angel told him that the child was the Son of God and was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Obeying the angel, Joseph took Mary as his wife. After Jesus’ birth at Bethlehem in Judaea, where the Holy Family received the Magi, an angel warned Joseph and Mary about the impending violence against the child by King Herod the Great of Judaea, whereupon they fled to Egypt. There the angel again appeared to Joseph, informing him of Herod’s death and instructing him to return to the Holy Land.

Avoiding Bethlehem out of fear of Herod’s successor, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus settled in Nazareth (Matthew 2:22–23) in Galilee, where Joseph taught his craft of carpentry to Jesus. Joseph is last mentioned in the Gospels when he and Mary frantically searched for the lost young Jesus in Jerusalem, where they found him in the Temple (Luke 2:41–49). Like Mary, Joseph failed to comprehend Jesus’ ironic question, “ ‘Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?’ ” The circumstances of Joseph’s death are unknown, except that he probably died before Jesus’ public ministry began and was certainly dead before the Crucifixion (John 19:26–27).

Although the veneration of Joseph seems to have begun in Egypt, the earliest Western devotion to him dates from the early 14th century, when the Servites, an order of mendicant friars, observed his feast on March 19, the traditional day of his death. Among the subsequent promoters of the devotion were Pope Sixtus IV, who introduced it at Rome about 1479, and the celebrated 16th-century mystic St. Teresa of

Ávila. Already patron of Mexico, Canada, and Belgium, Joseph was declared patron of the universal church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. In 1955 Pope Pius XII established the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker on May 1 as a counter-celebration to the communists' May Day.

**A Prayer for the Intercession of St. Joseph**

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;

O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence;

O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.

Amen

**Meeting Closing Prayer**

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All      Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen

Holy Mother Mary, pray for us.  
Dear St. Joseph, pray for us.  
St. John Neumann, pray for us.  
Blessed St. William, pray for us.