

St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish
Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 18, 2026

Call to Order: 6:59 pm

PPC Members: Dave Haller; Doreen Heuser (excused absence); Sylvia Ruthven; John Wood; Pete Hebauf; Kathy Nocks; Roxanne Rybolt; Patrick Simmons; Ray Roll (excused absence); Hank Menninger; John Fohl; Logan

Previous PPC Meeting Minutes: June minutes have been approved and were distributed: Motion to approve: H. Menninger; 2nd R. Rybolt

D. Haller began by introducing the new PPC members: John Wood; Patrick Simmons and John Fohl. Each then gave a little information about themselves as well as the rest of PPC. D. Haller then gave a brief overview of the yearly activities of PPC.

Pastor's Report: Father began by explaining the families of parishes in the Archdiocese are working on a Family Unity Discernment Transition Plan as part of the ongoing Beacons of Light Program. Archbishop Casey has recognized the various families of parishes are at different levels of progress after four years and believes the Family Unity Discernment will be a helpful transition from Beacons of Light, an on-going process of Pastoral renewal, toward 2027's Archdiocesan Synod. It will include mini-Synods at the Deanery and Family of Parish level and is aimed at bridging the parish families involved in the current Beacons of Light. The Family Unity Discernment Transition plan will be handled at the Deanery level. Father explained St. John is part of a sub-group of the Saint James Deanery that includes Saint Ignatius, the Parish family including Corpus Christi, Saint John's, Dry Ridge, and Saint John Neumann, as well as the parish family including Saint James, Saint Bernard and Saint Ann's. Family Unity Discernment will kick off for the entire Saint James Deanery with a Deanery Day on Saturday, October 3. Father says all parish staff leadership, as well as, PPC are encouraged to be involved and attend the meeting scheduled from 9 am to 12:30 pm at St. John's Dry Ridge. Parish leadership and PPCs will be working with the Archdiocese Center of Parish Vitality group on this day of reflection. Father states there will be some preview assignments including a video. Apparently, this video and other assignments will cut the timing from six hours to three hours. All involved will be encouraged to watch the video and read the assignments before the Deanery Day event. He also stated the various parish families will be assigned an Archbishop liaison to aid in various assessments of each parish including financial, building and grounds and the various activities each parish and family of parish have been building through Beacons of Light Program. Father further stated there are many activities happening during this fall time frame which will require diligent attention by staff and parish leadership to detail before the mini-Synod. The parish staff will take part in the reflection presentation assessment with the Archdiocese's liaison in anticipation of parish family Reflection Synod to be scheduled in October, either on Saturday or consecutive evenings, lasting approximately six hours in total. It is meant to be an opportunity for each family of parishes to gather with parish staff and PPC. A follow up Reconnect Day will be held, including the Archdiocese liaison with the parish leadership and PPC to assess the events and on-going family Unity Discernment reporting. Another activity involved is the Disciple Maker index guided by the Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI) that will involve all families of parishes in the Archdiocese. More detailed information will be shared with parish staff and PPC as they are set. Father concluded that the Archbishop wants to have the families synchronized various movements within the parish families and have them on the same level of transition heading into next years Archdiocesan Synod.

Business Manager: J. Siemer stated the yearly financials are in good shape. He then gave some details for the June FY 2026: June financials have been reconciled and the following is the summary of results: Church: June

collections are less than budgeted. Other Income is favorable to the budget. June expenses are favorable to the budget. The monthly surplus was more than budgeted. Total fiscal year 2026 collections are favorable to the budget. Total year Other Income is more than budgeted. Total year expenses are below budget. The fiscal year 2026 surplus is favorable to the budget. // School: June revenue is below budget. June expenses are favorable to the budget. The school's June deficit is favorable to the budget. Total fiscal year school income is less than budgeted. Total fiscal year 2026 expenses are favorable to budget. The fiscal year 2026 school deficit is unfavorable to the budget due to more lunches being sold and food being purchased for lunch. The total fiscal year 2026 surplus is favorable to the budget. //Statement of Financial Position: Cash and investments on the balance sheet increased to \$4.3M //Other items discussed: Church: Year-end reconciliation and closing. Festival financials wrapped up. // Buildings and Grounds: Began work on rectory gutters. Obtaining quotes on partitions for restrooms in the school. Finished edging and stonework around the Mary Statue and garden at new church. School: Preparing for start of new school year. Performed deep cleaning and floor waxing of entire school building. Numerous cosmetic touch ups to school. J. Siemer also talked a bit about the Archdiocese Audit which begins on 8-31. // P. Hebauf asked if this was a third- party audit. J. Siemer and Father Ruwe explained it was an in- house audit from the Archdiocese. This audit benefits all parishes and helps them improve financial activities. //H. Menninger asked what type of impact would there be on the school if EdChoice disappeared. Apparently, there is a challenge being brought through the courts in Ohio wanting to discontinue EdChoice. J. Siemer stated he did not think it would have as harsh an effect since there are other ways of helping families. There was some discussion concerning what St. Johns might do to prepare; however, Father and J. Siemer indicated there are plans prepared; however, it is up to the Financial Committee to assist with other plans. J. Fohl then asked, as a new member of PPC, for an explanation of EdChoice. J. Siemer and Father gave a brief explanation. Father explained the parish still supplements the school; however, on a lower level due to EdChoice. The school was doing well before EdChoice. //As for the Festival, the final results are still not available due to some expense items not being counted. However; J. Siemer believes it was very successful. The chicken dinner also was successful and will be continued next year. // D. Haller asked about how the baseball season went with the new fields. J. Siemer stated it went well; however, they learned the fields need continuous maintenance. He also stated the Soccer games are moving along well. Finally, J. Siemer stated all is ready for school to begin on Wednesday, August 19. // **Term Activities (Underway/Planned) Finance:** July month end reconciliation. Church: review security; clean carpets. Buildings and Grounds: correct drainage issue in school parking lot. Repair broken slate on old church. School: Bathroom partitions replacement. // **How have I/We impacted the SSTJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** Continuous focus on maintaining a financially stable parish through adequate collections, expense control, balance sheet management and budgetary accuracy. Enhancing our infrastructure through the effective use of donated funds.

School Principal: Nichole Hermann reports she completed end of year tasks in FACTS and set up of 2026/2027 school year. Planned opening meetings and professional development for teachers. Created master schedules for upcoming school year. Continued to meet with prospective families during the month of July. The school office is closed during the month of July. // **Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Preparations for Meet the Teacher night and first day of school. Orientation for new teachers. Assisting teachers with their needs/questions for upcoming year. **How have I/we Impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** We have impacted STJB vision this month by continuing to meet with families interested in enrolling their children or child at St. John's.

Director of Music Ministry: Patrick Wickliffe reports Liturgy planning through Christ the King, along with musician schedules through end of September are complete and posted. MSP Coordinated for reminders. // All current instrumentalists and cantors have been regularly engaged in the musician schedule. // Substitutes and cantors for August vacation have been determined and assigned. //Appointments for instrument maintenance successfully completed and all technicians retained for future. //New computer software system, Canva

Publisher, up and working. **//Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned:** Congregational participation, will continue to develop the process of vital worship. **//** Developing material appropriately designed for promotional use during the festival. Several members of the music ministry participated in the success of the festival in a variety of ways. **//**Appointments made with several couples to be married. Continued Microsoft Publisher conversion process. Developing techniques for conversion of graphics, revised script language for Rites such as Baptism during Mass, etc. **//How have I/we impacted the STJB Vision this Month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** Let us go the extra mile for a community that is worthy of our best and our dedication for Christ.

Pastoral Minister: Teresa palmer reports fundraising for SEEk Conference has been helpful. Two young Adult full scholarships were donated as of the end of July along with a donation toward a third. The advertisement has ended in the bulletin, but donations will still be accepted until October when the registrations are due to be paid. **//** We have three people who are currently signed up for the fall session of OCIA> There are others who have reached out but have not set up a tie to meet. **//**Deacon Ron joined the e OCIA team in July. Other members of the OCIA team are Father Paul Ruwe, Johnathan Schaeffer, Barb and Bill Sirbu, Steve Dahmann, Diane Brockman, Diane Detmer and T. Palmer. All play an important role in the OCIA journey. **//**Letters for the Annual El Salvador Scholarship drive have been sent. Donations for this are due by Labor Day. The children supported by our parishioners are able to safely participate in programs to further their education, their spiritual growth and develop their faith through participation in various church activities in an area of the world that has uncertainty. **//**Joey Jacob has been moved to Lead Server for weekend Masses. Thank you goes t Jack Jacob for training and his continued support of Joey in his new role. Server training for incoming 5th graders will occur in September. **//** The transition of Mondays from Weekday Masses to Word with Communion Services occurred on July 20. **// Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Publisher will be shutoff for parish staff in August. **//** Order two new laptops for DRE and Pastoral Minister. **//** The school will be ordering new replacement laptops and Chromebook for some of the classrooms. This is a multi-year initiative. **//** Hoxworth Blood drive is scheduled 8-18 from 11 am to 5 p, **//** Young Adult Mass with Winds is scheduled for 8-20. **//** Fall OCIA begins 8-27. **//** Continue to plan for Fall activities. **//How have I/we impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** In July she impacted the Vision through Body, Mind and Soul when she took care of her own body, mind and soul while on vacation. This allowed her to refocus on what is important so she can truly follow God's lead and help others come to Christ.

Director of Religious Education: Johnathan Schaefer reported registration forms for PSR classes are posted on line. **//**School religion books have arrived. **//** Youth ministry Small Group meeting went well and new group begins in fall. **//** Vacation Bible School was successful. **//** Pushing out volunteer and student signs ups for PSR classes. **//** Organized the Steubenville Youth Conference Trip and it was successful. **//** Updating youth Facebook pages and Instagram. **//** Attended the spirit Youth Leadership Conference in St. Paul (NET Center). **//** Faith and Chicken night was successful at the church. **//**Planning for First Sacraments and Confirmation for coming school year. **//** Brainstorming ideas with youth ministry volunteers to get more youth involved in the parish. **//** Put new year calendars together for coming school year. **//** Invited graduating 8th graders to join the youth ministry program. **// Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Organizing and advertising for Youth Group Small Group meetings. **//** Planning for Youth Ministry events. **//** Planning end of summer youth events. **//** Recruiting for PSR. **//** Planning Confirmation Retreat and service opportunities. **//How have we/I impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** Body, Mind and Soul – We led high school students to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference and showed them a faith that was active and alive. Encouraging them to get involved with the parish and find faith support in the parish and family.

Parish Life: J. Losekamp reports: RPOMEOS, JULIETS and Breakfast Club meetings still ongoing. Skyline fundraiser is in September and they are planning the annual Milestone Anniversary Celebration for October.

Love in Action: K. Nocks reports that the Bountiful Hearts meal was a picnic provided by SVdP. They served 118 neighbors along with SVdP and BH members. The neighbors look forward to this picnic. Love in Action voted to donate \$1,000 to help stock the SVdP pantry. Most of the neighbors who come to the meal also visit the pantry, Love in Action thought this would be a good way to give back.

SVdP: In R. Roll's absence K. Nocks reported: SVdP provided the July BH Meal. Many of the neighbors SVdP helps throughout the year attend this meal. //The pantry is providing for many of our neighbors. We are approaching three years since it was built. It has had a huge impact on the community. K. Nocks gave a brief history of how the pantry was developed including its beginning in R. Roll's basement.

Old Business: D. Haller stated the PPC Meet and Greet would begin again on 9-5/6. He asked for volunteers: 4 PM Mass on 9-5: K. Nocks; H. Menninger. 9-6 8:30 am Mass: D. Haller; J. Wood; P. Hebauf. 9-6 11:15 am Mass: P. Simmons; R. Rybolt; J. Fohl. //D. Haller then asked P. Hebauf to explain the latest PPC activity, the Welcome New Members Dinner. P. Hebauf gave a brief explanation and then stated they now have a video being made for the dinner. As stated, before they are inviting new members from this year and the past two to attend. The dinner time has been set at 4pm to 7 pm. The date may be some time in October. They are keeping it simple. //Next, D. Haller called for nominations of Chairperson; Vice Chairperson and Secretary. R. Rybolt nominated D. Haller for Chairperson; H. Menninger 2nd. D. Haller will be Chairperson. D. Heuser was nominated by D. Haller for Vice Chairperson and H. Menninger 2nd. D. Heuser will be the Vice chairperson. S. Ruthven was nominated for Secretary by D. Haller and 2nd by R. Rybolt. S. Ruthven will be Secretary. /J. Fohl asked who he would be getting e mail or text or calls from on PPC. Father and D. Haller explained Jessica would be sending the reports to him; D. Haller would be sending agenda and S. Ruthven would be sending minutes.

New Business: None

Adjournment: Motion: R. Rybolt; 2nd K. Nocks

Prayer: Father Paul Ruwe

Submitted: S. Ruthven, Secretary 8-18-26