

St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish
SJB Parish Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes
BRING PEOPLE - BODY, MIND AND SOUL - TO CHRIST

Meeting Date: October 20, 2026

Call to Order: 6:59 pm

Prayer: Father Paul Ruwe

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

Previous PPC Meeting Minutes: September PPC Meeting Minutes have been approved and distributed. Motion to approve: H. Menninger; 2nd L. Montgomery

D. Haller had a question regarding Dr. P. Wickliffe's report concerning computer system he is using and is it compatible with his various music technology. Father stated the entire staff is using the new system, Canva, instead of Publisher. The change has been ongoing for several months. He thanked T. Palmer and J. Siemer for their technology expertise in making the change for the office go smoothly.

Pastor's Report: Father began by explaining Family Unity Discernment (FUD) is throughout all the parish families in the Cincinnati Archdiocese on a deanery basis. The SJB FUD meeting was held on Saturday, 10-17. Sean Ater, from the Archdiocese is now compiling information shared at each table and group. He and Ricky Mathews, our parish liaison, will work with SJB Parish Leadership and PPC to discuss opportunities SJ determines for use. They will then help SJB Parish Leadership create a report to the Archbishop. The Archbishop will review and make suggestions then it will be sent back to SJB Parish Leadership Team and PPC for action. // J. Fohl asked if the entire parish will see these reports. Father stated a summary would be made and possibly shared on the SJB website or on Flock Note. He stated PPC will have access to the individual reports. H. Menninger discussed some logistical problems he felt should have been addressed. He also shared his disappointment more people under age 50 were not in attendance. His main concern is how the future finances will be affected. Father stated Sean Ater assured everyone that all parishes have the same problems with younger people and future finances. P. Hebauf discussed the difficulty in reading some of the financial reports displayed on the screen due to color. D. Haller was impressed with the fact that Sean Ater kept the meeting on track. //Father then stated that in addition to FUD, there is a Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey inviting all parishioners to participate. The DMI survey questions regard their individual involvement or engagement in the parish activities. He stated he will be talking about this survey at all Masses this weekend in his homily; there will be computer laptops in the church gathering space available during weekend Masses so some can also take the survey with help. Eventually, the results of the survey will be shown to the Archdiocese which should contribute additional information in moving SJB forward as Beacons of Light comes to a conclusion. // Father then stated on Friday, 10-23-26; there is a Convocation to which all active priests in the Archdiocese are required to attend at Incarnation in Centerville from 10 am- 3 pm. // On 11-2-26; All Souls Day, an evening Prayer Service will be held in which all families who have had loved ones buried from SJB this past year are invited and will acknowledge their loved ones with prayer and a special candle. //Father finished by stating that on 11-10-26; First Reconciliation for PSR and parish school students will be held at the new church.

Business Manager Report: J. Siemer stated the August 2026 financials are reconciled and it was a very good month. He then went into the August financial summary. Church: August collections were more than budgeted. Other Income was favorable to the budget also. August expenses were favorable to the budget. The

SJB PPC Meeting Minutes – 10-20-26

monthly surplus was favorable to the budget. Year-to-date (YTD) collections were favorable to the budget. YTD Other Income was more than budgeted. YTD expenses were favorable to the budget. The church's YTD surplus is very favorable to the budget. // School: August revenue is favorable to the budget. August expenses are favorable to the budget. The school's August deficit is favorable to the budget. YTD school income is favorable to the budget. YTD expenses are favorable to the budget. The YTD deficit is also favorable to the budget. //Total Church, School and Cafeteria: For August, there is a surplus which is favorable to the budget. YTD, there is a surplus which is favorable to the budget. //Statement of Financial Position: Cash and Investments on the balance sheet increased. //In addition, J. Siemer shared the following: Church: Archdiocese of Cincinnati Financial review was completed. Two minor corrections are necessary, and they had some minor improvement suggestions. //Building and Grounds: They fixed several non-working lights and added photo sensors to others. There is continued maintenance of facilities and grounds, including landscaping. They are working on heat for the Rectory. //School: Tuition has been determined for the 2027/2028 school year. J. Siemer stated it is about a 4% increase. Pre-school is also increasing around 4%. He made a comment concerning EDChoice and the appeals court agreeing EDChoice is unconstitutional. He stated this is a formality to get this issue to the Supreme Court for a final decision. //D. Haller asked if J. Siemer is comfortable with the number of students. J. Siemer stated he is and there has been a waiting list for some grades. He stated this year they actually had to have two second grade school teachers. Father stated they are budgeting for steady growth. //Near Term Activities Underway/Planned): Finance: Working September month-end reconciliation; Publish the year-end report in the Bulletin. He then handed out copies of the Year End financials which has been approved by the Finance Committee. Church: Review security; Clean carpets; Replace candle money boxes with larger ones. Building & Grounds: Replace rectory boiler, School: Bathroom partitions replacements. //He stated as for Athletics there is not much going on. Volley Ball and Basketball signups and they are winterizing the fields. //He finished by stating the Turkey Dinner and Craft Show is scheduled for 11-8-26. However, the K of C will no longer lead this function and they are looking for someone or others to handle it. There will be a Bulletin article which will explain the needs in detail. The Turkey Dinner will be "take out" only. // J. Fohl asked if the school enrollment has increased. J. Siemer and Father both stated yes and steadily. //How has he impacted the STJB 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.

Pastoral Minister: T. Palmer reported Pam Handra has completed training for the Sacristan position. She will be added to the schedule. //Tuesday Night Bible Study began 9-8-26. They will study the letters of St. Paul to Timothy and Titus. //Bethlehem Christian Family's Sale occurred on 9-13-26. She thanked everyone who supported this important mission. //She attended the Discipleship Index Meeting on 9-21. Access to the Discipleship Index for parishioners occurs the end of October through November. //OCIA increased in size in September. There are 10 in the process for Sacraments at the Easter Vigil: Three non-baptized; three full communion candidates, one catechized Catholic and three Catholics seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation. //Mike Davis is scheduled to present his Advent Program on 12-18-26. //Technology: Ultrafibers Fiber line to the Church building for the internet was repaired on 9-23. She also Created a Mass Intention Policy page for the SJB website. **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** New Server training is scheduled for 10-3 and 10-17; Pet Blessing on 10-4; D. Bochenek will be training for Wednesday Noon Mass Sacristan position; Wednesday Night Study group will begin study titled the Heart of Prayer on 10-14; Reachout Pregnancy Center dinner is scheduled for 10-20-26; FUD Activities and Meetings logistics; Discipleship Index; Plan for Advent; Technology: She is ordering two laptops in the parish office for the DRE and Pastoral Minister. Installation of 1AP for the parish office main floor. **How Has she impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** She reports in September she impacted the vision through body, Mind and Soul: Meeting a non-Catholic where they were, upset about a Church teaching, listening, summarizing what she heard, she gave

no judgement and helped the person better understand the teaching. This interaction gave the person some peace.

Director of Music Ministry: P. Wickliffe reports SJB choir schedule is working well. //Guest organist, Sarah Simko, will collaborate with Schola in November. //School Masses are going well. He will continue with a once-a-month program with Gayle Rolfes. // Musician schedule for October 2026 through January 2027 is to be posted. MSP continues auto reminders. //New cantors are working well. // There have been a few issues with the organ console. The tech visit is scheduled. //Chapel piano needs tuning. Appointment is made. //Worship aids have been transferred to Word. Experiments with Christmas and Triduum materials in the format are underway with a few challenges // **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Congregational participation: he will continue to develop vital worship. // Appointments made with several couples to be married. //He continues conversion to Canva or Word. He plans for conversion of graphics, revised script language for Wedding plans, etc. // **How has he impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** He continues to go the extra mile for a community that is worthy of his best and his dedication.

Principal – Nichole Herrmann: She reports she has completed AOC/State reports. //Honored St. Terese during Little Way Week. They raised \$533 for the Missionary Childhood Association. // She attended Dr. Salkeld “Educating for an Eternity” workshop at XU with Miss Walter. // The PTC walk-a-thon was successful and raised more than \$34,000 to support students and staff. // Completed fall MAP testing. // Completed required fire, safety and bus evaluation drills. // Completed Department of Education audit of Administration Cost Reimbursement documents from 2025/2026. // **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Fall break (10-2 thru 10-14. // Body Matters Program from Pregnancy Center West for 5th through 8th grade students. // Red Ribbon Week. // End of 1st Trimester. // **How has she impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring people – body, mind and soul – to Christ?** We have impacted STJB vision this month by attending and learning from Dr. Salkeld and his book, “Educating for an Eternity”.

Director of Religious Education: J. Schaefer reports Registration forms for PSR Classes have increased and are up to 115. // School is up and running (religion texts are going well). // Preparing for ARK training again this year: test for school and PSR. //Youth ministry small group is beginning in October (two adult mentor volunteers). // Steubenville Youth Conference went well and they had good follow up with students. // He continues updating youth Facebook page and Instagram. // Recruiting high school youth and adult faith mentors for small groups. // Looking for more adult help in the PSR program. // **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Organizing and advertising for Youth Group Small Group meetings; Planning for Youth Ministry events; Planning for First Pizza and Game night; Recruiting PSR teachers; Planning Confirmation events. // **How has he impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People == Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** Body, Mind and soul – We led high school students through Sunday Scripture and how that can apply to life and what to do to prepare to hear the Sunday readings. // Some Youth helped at the Bountiful Hearts Meal in August.

Parish Life: J. Losekamp reports the ROMEOS, JULIETS and the Breakfast Club continue meeting. The Skyline fundraiser was successful raising \$356. The Anniversary Milestone Celebration honored nine couples at Mass with eight couples staying for lunch. There were 3 – 40th; 3-50th; 2-60th; and one 70th anniversary couples. Parish Life has no activities scheduled until 2027. They will provide soup for one of the Lenten Soup Suppers and will host the April Bountiful Hearts meal.

Love in Action: K. Nocks reports The September Bountiful Hearts meal was provided by the church Liturgical Ministers. They fed 133 neighbors. //The Feed the Children ministry will have their Christmas break delivery on 12-15. They are in the process of adding six new students from SJB to the list.

Saint Vincent DePaul: In R. Roll's absence, K. Nocks reported the Clean Out the Closet will be 10-24 and 10-25 in the SJB school parking lot. //SVdP, Love in Action and K of C have joined together to provide free turkey dinners for Bountiful Hearts neighbors for the Turkey Dinner on 11-8-26. They are also making plans to provide everything needed for a turkey dinner to approximately 10 families this Thanksgiving.

Building and Grounds: See J. Siemer's Business Manager Report

Old Business: D. Haller asked if Father had any more to add to the FUD discussion. He said he felt it had been covered, but welcomed further input. D. Haller then went on to discuss that his table discussions main topic was about the old church and upcoming repairs needed. //There was some discussion, as well, about the communication of the FUD Meeting. Father stated there was ample communication in the Bulletin, Flock Note, Emails and his dedicating a weekend's Mass homily, as well as in the PPC Meeting Minutes. The overall low attendance was not due to lack of communication. // J. Fohl sited the report from J. Siemer concerning future repairs to the old church was concerning. //P. Hebauf asked if the school Mass could be held in the gym, if the old church is unfit. Father stated holding Mass in the gym is not the same as in church. There was some discussion about transporting the school children to the new church for Mass. Father and J. Siemer stated the logistics and expense of transporting 250 plus students to the new church was expensive and difficult. There was some discussion about other places Mass has been held at different times. Father stated this is for a future discussion. // D. Haller then asked for volunteers for the November PPC Meet and Greet (11-7 and 11-8). 4 pm Mass: H. Menninger; K. Nocks. 8:30 am Mass: D. Haller; L. Montgomery; D. Heuser? 11:15 am Mass: P. Simmons; R. Rybolt? // D. Haller then asked P. Hebauf to report on the New Member Dinner planned 11-15-26 from 4 pm to 7 pm. P. Hebauf stated the initial mailing has gone out to new church members from two years to present (181). They have five families for a total of 17 people who have RSVP they will attend. Plans are to do another Email to remind others about the dinner, followed with phone calls to those who have not RSVP. The hope is to have at least 10% of the 181 invited attend. All PPC members are encouraged to attend the dinner and welcome the new members.

New Business: J. Fohl revisited communication and asked where a list of ministries for SJB could be found. J. Siemer stated there is a list on the SJB website and it is also included in the New Member brochure. J. Fohl encouraged a visibility in the Gathering space, as he feels many people may not know what activities are available at SJB. Father noted the possibility of displaying them on our Gathering Space video screens. There was some further discussion concerning communication, its varied sources and inattentiveness by some for whom it is intended.

Adjourn: Motion: 1st H. Menninger; 2nd J. Fohl

Prayer: Father Ruwe

Submitted by: S. Ruthven 10-20-26