

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

**Meeting Date:** April 21, 2026

**Call to Order:** 7 pm

**Prayer:** Father Paul Ruwe

**PPC Members:** Dave Haller; Doreen Heuser; Sylvia Ruthven; Louis Egbert (excused); Kathy Nocks; Teresa Meyer; Ray Roll; Hank Menninger; Mary White; Roxann Rybolt; Logan Montgomery; Pete Hebauf

**Previous PPC Meeting Minutes:** February 2026 Meeting Minutes have been approved and distributed. Motion to approve: 1stD. Heuser; 2<sup>nd</sup> H. Menninger

K. Nocks asked before Father's report what is the ARK testing (religious) in N. Herrmann's report. Father stated it is a type of test given to Catholic and Public schools to all students as well as PSR and teachers to see where their knowledge is compared to other areas. It is done on line and some of it is done at the student's home. K. Nocks also had a question for J. Siemer concerning his report on partitions in rest rooms for security. J. Siemer explained that this was two separate statements. The B&G is working on getting bathroom partitions replaced and then there are some security measures being worked on at church and school.

**Pastor's Report:** Father Paul by saying the Lenten activities (soup/supper; Stations of the Cross; and concert) went well. He explained that Holy Week and Easter liturgies were well attended. Although he states they are exhilarating, they are exhausting at the same time. He thanked all involved in making them go well, including T. Palmer; Dr. P Wickliffe; cantors, choir and musicians, as well as many parishioners. He then stated the First Communion Mass will be held at 3 pm on Saturday, April 25. The normal Mass at 4 pm will be pushed back to 5:30 pm. //He talked about an unusual situation caused by one of the OCIA candidates being sick and missing the Easter Vigil. This person will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation (with permission of the Archbishop) on Saturday, May 9, at the 4 pm Mass. //Father Ruwe then switched to how the concentration is being focused toward the end of school and all the activities related to finishing out the 2025/26 year.

**Business Manager Report:** J. Siemer stated the February collections were in line with budget then he gave more detail. February 2026 /Year end financials have been reconciled. Church: February collections are about even with the budget. Other Income is favorable to budget. February expenses are favorable to budget as well. The monthly surplus is favorable to the budget. //H Menninger asked why the expenses were lower than normal. J. Siemer explained there have been no major problems causing less money to be spent. //P. Hebauf asked about the state problems with transparency in Ed Choice and the fact that a group has been trying to get EdChoice repealed since the Ohio schools are losing money. J. Siemer stated this is going on in other states too. However, J. Siemer does not see this program going away. Parents like being able to send their children to the school of their choice. H. Menninger then asked if there was a backup plan if EdChoice is repealed or found unconstitutional. J. Siemer stated before EdChoice there were plenty of parents who paid full tuition to make certain their children got a Catholic education. He also talked a bit about the Scholarship Granting Organization money which comes back to the school and that would help. Apparently, SJB is doing well with SGO. However, he does not see a real problem with EdChoice. //Year to Date (YTD) collections are favorable to budget. YTD Other Income is more than budgeted. YTD expenses are favorable to the budget as well. The church's YTD surplus is favorable to the budget. //School: February revenue is more than budgeted mainly due to receiving two EdChoice payments in one month. February expenses are favorable to the budget. The school's February surplus is favorable to the budget due mainly to the double EdChoice payments. YTD school income is less than

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budgeted. YTD expenses are favorable to budget. The YTD school deficit is unfavorable to budget due mainly to timing. //Total Church, School and Cafeteria: There is a surplus which is favorable to budget as well as a YTD Surplus also favorable to budget. //Statement of Financial Position: Cash and Investments on the balance sheet increased. //Other: Church: the FY 2027 Budget is completed and approved by the Finance Committee. J. Siemer stated it is a bit tighter than the 2026, but workable. //Building and Grounds: He is getting quotes for gutter repairs on the Rectory and the partitions for school restrooms which are in disrepair. //School: Most of the USDA Audit is complete; however, there are still some parts unfinished and the FY 2027 budget is also complete. //Other: Preparing fields for spring baseball is complete. Preparations for the 2026 Festival is mostly complete including equipment rental and permits. However, they are still seeking someone to handle the Festival's Jaquar Jungle. //J. Siemer stated an AED cabinet and unit has been installed on the outside of the Maintenance Building at the new church. // **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Finance: March reconciliation. // Church: Review security and clean carpets. // B&G: Paint the exterior of the parish office. Gutter replacement on the rectory; repair the roof leak in elementary school; Put roofing on dugouts in the baseball field. //School: review security and replace partitions in bathrooms. // **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 Associate Minister:** T. Palmer reports the Soup Suppers went well during Lenten Season. She thanked everyone who helped, especially R. Walter and S. Dahmann who were working behind the scenes assuring all went smoothly. // //OCIA Penitential Rite and Scrutinies went well on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent. //Easter card design was completed and the cards were sent to parishioners. // Parish Penance Service on 3-11 went well with 10 priests. // Holy Week and Easter Mass volunteer recruitment went well. 11:15 am Mass was the only Mass short volunteers which were greeters and ushers which made it easier than past years. //This Year's Lenten study was well received by those involved in the Witness Journal Study. // April through June Ministry Schedule is complete and sent to volunteers. //Three new EmsHC and one Lector for Sunday Masses have been trained. These volunteers came from the recently confirmed 8<sup>th</sup> grade class. //She held a Baptism workshop for parents who combined have seven children to be baptized. //Technology: She sent out for bids replacing the fiber between Elementary and Jr. High using Erate money. The bid was higher than expected. Now they are determining if SJB should move forward with this project. **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Technology: continues to work with staff on conversion to Canva/Affinity. //Triduum and Easter Service Mass prep. // Recruit for 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Mass April 25. // Review how the Triduum and Easter Services went searching for ways to improve 2027. //Wedding prep for April 24. // Create schedule for the next OCIA group beginning in May. Currently there are two candidates interested in completing their Sacraments of Initiation. **How has she impacted the STJB vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** In March, the final preparation for OCIA to receive their sacraments included a Day of Reflection to help them move even closer to our Lord.

**Music Director:** no report

**Principal:** N. Herrmann reported the 2026-2027 calendar is published. // Celebrated Grandparents Day. There were 100s of grandparents and special guests. It was a great job and she congratulated the planning committee. // Teachers planned activities for Right to Read week and the Book Fair sales resulted in more than \$4,000 for teachers to spend on books for classrooms. // More than 20 students enjoyed lunch at LaRosa's for selling at least 20 Jaguar Lotto tickets. // Students enjoyed a day of playing Carnival games as a reward for reaching one of the walk-a-thon goals. // More than 25 students performed Annie for students and families. //During Lent, students prayed the stations weekly, went to Confession and spent time in Adoration. //Several teachers

participated in a Lenten study weekly after school led by J. Schaefer. **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Spring MAP testing; ARK (Religion test 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade; Yellow Week; Spring break; 1<sup>st</sup> Communion 4/25; End of year events: Awards, graduation, Goodwill games, Relay for Life. **How have/we impacted the STJVB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** She states we have impacted the vision by sharing our faith and our school with many grandparents and special guests.

**Director of Religious Education:** Jonathan Schaefer reported the following activities completed: PSR Classes on Sunday morning and evenings started again. // Practiced for school Masses with students and trained volunteers. // Planned Pizza and game night for Youth Ministry grades 6 through 2. // Helped organize school field trip in April. // Set up Adoration time for school with students and volunteers. // Updated FB page and Instagram. // Steubenville started waiting list for more youth interested (Conference is sold out). // Continued to run Y-Disciple Small Group with High School Youth. // Led and completed LENT study on Virtues with the school teachers. // Began preparation and administration of the ARK test for students in grades 2 through 8 in the school and PSR students. This is to be able to monitor progress with students from year to year. // Brainstormed ideas with youth ministry volunteers. // Completed the weekly stations of the cross with school on Fridays and Holy Thursday prayer Service. // **Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned):** Organizing and advertising for Youth Group Small Group meetings. // Planning for VBS in June with Kelly Ane. // Planning the upcoming First Communion Mass 4-25. // Planning ideas for Summer Youth Activities. // Planning upcoming May Crowning. // Planning First Communion Picture and Practice Nights. // **How has he impacted the STJB Vision this month: (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ)?** Body, Mind and Soul – Leading the students to pray and connect with Jesus through prayer and service by attending Stations of the Cross and through the Toilet Paper Drive.

**Parish Life:** J. Losekamp reports Parish Life has the usual – ROMEOs, JULIETS and Breakfast Club meetings. They hosted the March Bountiful Hearts meal and are donating a 250<sup>th</sup> United States Celebration basket to the church festival.

**Building and Grounds:** See J. Siemer's report

**Festival:** See J. Siemer's report.

**Love in Action:** March Bountiful Hearts meal was provided by Parish Life. 152 neighbors enjoyed a brunch for lunch. PPC will sponsor the April Bountiful Hearts Luncheon on 4-25. // Feed the Children ministry delivered groceries for spring break to 51 children who normally receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch at school. K. Nocks reports there are more than 14 families who receive deliveries of food. More than 20 parishioners helped pack and deliver these groceries. // May 2 and 3 will be the Feed the Children Ministry's annual collections. K. Nocks stated about a 30% rise in food prices and hope to collect enough to cover costs. // Love in Action will be providing a basket for the festival this year.

**St. Vincent De Paul:** R. Roll talked about their search for new members and how well it has gone. They have four new members. They also just had their "Fill the Tent" event and received donations as well as cash and checks. The annual Clear the Closet Truck will be held on May 16 and 17. He also stated they are planning on holding a picnic for the Bountiful Hearts Meal July 25. It was successful last year.

**Old Business:** D. Haller stated PPC Meet and Greet for March did not have any significant questions. K. Nocks did report one parishioner asked about Phase II for the church and she was able to answer her questions. D. Haller then asked for volunteers for May 2 and 3 Meet and Greet PPC: 5-2: 4 pm Mass: K. Nocks; T. Meyer; 5-3: 8:30 am Mass: D. Heuser; M. White; D. Haller; 11:15 am Mass: R. Rybolt; L. Egbert. // D. Haller then talked a bit about the Bountiful Hearts Meal scheduled for 4-25. He asked for volunteers: D. Heuser (will be late due to

Reach Out Pregnancy Walk); P. Heabauf; L. Montgomery; D. Haller. As for dessert, R. Rybolt volunteered to make the cookies. D. Haller asked volunteers to be at cafeteria by 9 am to help set up. He also collected \$10 from each PPC member to cover cost of meal. //The subject of the New Parishioner Dinner was handled by P. Heabauf. He talked about the date of event scheduled September 20. It will be a taco bar dinner. They also plan on inviting new parishioners from the past three years to present. They hope to have a short video concerning the different activities SJB offers parishioners including a message from Father Ruwe. They plan on sending out eVites and using technical media to contact the new parishioners. The group is hoping to hold this event yearly with new parishioners. The next meeting will be June 1. D. Haller thanked J. Siemer for attending and helping with budget and others who are attending outside of regular work hours. // Another event happening is the upcoming drawing of new PPC members. Three members will leave this year; however, they can put their name in the hat again. P. Heabauf asked what happens, if we do not get three people to volunteer. D. Haller stated the bylaws allow Father Ruwe to select someone or leave the positions empty until someone volunteers.

**New Business:** R. Rybolt asked if PPC was going to purchase a super raffle ticket this year. D. Haller stated we would purchase one at the May Meeting.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn: 1<sup>st</sup> H. Menninger 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Rybolt

**Prayer:** Father Ruwe

**Submitted by:** S. Ruthven 4-21-26