

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish  
Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting**



**February 19, 2025**

**In-Person**

**6:00 – p.m.**

**Pastoral Council in Attendance:** Deb Steppe (Parish Director), Mary Alston, Cory Anshus, Jackie Dombrowski, Denise Haussy, Cathy Markwiese, Terry Malloy, Pat McKay, Emerson Porter, Rebecca Porter, Judeen Schulte, Jim Stamatakos, Donna Van Wynsberghe (Chair), Barb Webber, Christine Yatchak

**Excused:** Lori Skeff

**Opening Prayer:** Mark 8:22-26 - Healing the Blind Man. Personal reflections shared.

**Ice Breaker:** led by Barb Webber (**Two Truths and a Lie**). Fun “getting to know you” activity.

**Parish Director’s Report:**

- **Deb met the Archbishop.** She was impressed. He was kind, funny, humble and a good listener. Get to know him Mass on February 24 at St. Matthias, 6pm.
- **Budget process** starting soon.
- **Influx of new parishioners continues.** Need someone to take the helm of the welcome breakfast for the new members
- **New priest in our cadre of helpers:** Father Art Heinze, a friend of Fr. Tom Suriano.
- **Parking lot** project for landscaping is out for bid.
- **A recently received bequest** will make it possible for some kitchen improvements including a modern dishwasher.
- **In the process of hiring a liturgist.**
- **New Year’s Eve Potluck** was a big success; will be on the schedule for 12/31/2025.
- **Six members in OCIA** with probably 4 baptisms and 2 confirmations at the Easter Vigil this year.

**Spotlight and Unsung Disciples Update: Judeen Schulte**

- Upcoming Spotlight authors and deadlines: Donna (2/19), Jackie (3/26), Terry (4/23), Barb (5/14), Christine (6/18), Denise (7/2)
- Upcoming Unsung Disciples authors and deadlines: Barb (3/5), Jim (4/2), Jackie (5/7)

**Council Presence after liturgies: Jackie Dombrowski**

- Each liturgy will have one or two Pastoral Council volunteers for each of the Masses to be listeners and liaisons back to the Council. This will be on the weekend of February 22/23, 2025.

**Committee Reports:**

• **Social Justice: Pat McKay-**

- Sr. Diana’s immigration talk will be February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Wednesday at 10:45 am
- All Saints Choir will perform on 2/28/2025; 77 people have registered to attend.
- Non-violence series feedback is solicited to the Social Justice Committee.
- February 28, 2025: 24 hour economic blackout...try not to shop or get gas that day at large, big box stores but favor local, small business.

March 12, 2025, 7 pm, is the WI Supreme Court candidate debate.

- **Discipleship Institute:** Visit the Discipleship Institute web page to see prayer and formation activities in the parish.
- **Liturgy:** working on a flyer detailing all the prayer opportunities during Lent.

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- **Finance Council:** contributions are “spot on” with the budget. OLOL has been blessed with some generous bequests. The budget process is beginning for next year.
- **Formation:** Review the Formation reports from Steve and Maggie. Several “special” GIFT sessions are coming up this spring including a movie discussion, park clean up, and Prayerpalooza.
- **Marketing/Communication:** no report for this month
- **Community Engagement:** no report for this month
- **Youth Representative: Emerson Porter** - Emerson reported on the discussion at MUHS about the lies and scandalous rhetoric out of Washington about the churches laundering federal money.
- **Deanery Meeting:** The deanery meetings will not occur during the Archbishop transition.

**Dream Time:**

**Investigated and answered**

- *Integrate a zoom option for GIFT-* Maggie says while it could make GIFT accessible, a virtual option is not the best way to accomplish what GIFT is all about - community building. It is also difficult to justify the equipment and personnel we would need to make it even slightly successful.

**Still being investigated**

- Disseminate a calendar that identifies all the “asks” - Winter/Christmas is when the needs are greatest.
- Explore how we can shepherd those in the 30s and 40s
- Can we revise the confirmation process?
- Can we use the kitchen more effectively? Can we invite in food trucks?

**New Dreams:** Is there a need to be more explicit about meetings being a safe space for “outside of the box thinking”. What is going to happen to these ideas? Feeling challenged is ok.

**Closing prayer:** Deb Steppe

**Next Meeting:** March 19, 2025

**Opening Prayer for March meeting:** Pat McKay

**Respectfully submitted,  
Cory Anshus**