

**Saint Pius X  
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday – November 12, 2024**

**Present:** Father Mark Tomaszewicz, Kristine Ericson, Mary Ellen Freyermuth, Sam Griffin, Barb Houlden, Katherine Horvath, Cheslee Klinger, Jerry Klug, Faith Kurtyka, Jessica Lathrop, Norah Morris, Mary Coyle

**Absent:** Justin Cyboron, Bill Fell, Jerry Morrissey

**I. Call to Order**

Pastoral Council President Kristine Ericson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Mary Coyle recorded the names of those in attendance

**III. Opening Prayer**

Father Mark led the opening prayer. Council members silently reflected on the Gospel of Mark 13: 24-32 and then shared their reflections with the group.

**IV. Review and approve Pastoral Council meeting minutes from Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024**

Kristine asked if there were any corrections needed for the October 8 Pastoral Council meeting minutes. Barb Houlden moved that the minutes be approved; Norah Morris seconded the motion. The October 8, 2024 minutes were approved.

**V. Old Business**

- ***Update on Archdiocesan Appeal***

Father Mark reported \$14,058 has been donated so far. He said this is almost 40% of the goal for the parish.

- ***Pastoral Council By-Laws Subcommittee updates or questions***

Father Mark said the subcommittee's work looks great and he will email the updates to Pastoral Council members for discussion at the January meeting. The Council will vote following the discussion.

- ***St. Pius Festival Plans for 2025***

- Kristine said there was nothing specific to announce for the 2025 festival yet. She asked Pastoral Council members if they had any items to consider for next year. She said the festival chairpersons would like the Pastoral Council to be more involved in helping to promote the event.
- Father Mark added that in addition to promoting the festival, he would ask for more individuals to help so it is not just the chairpersons doing all the work. He said the festival is such a worthy project to connect St. Pius X to the larger community. Father said the whole Finance Council should be involved. Kristine said managing the cash the day of the festival was challenging.
- The 2024 Festival did not have any corporate donors. Cheslee asked if Michaela Smith, St. Pius X/St. Leo School's Director of Operations and Alumni Director, would be able to help getting corporate sponsors and the alums involved.

- Faith Kurtyka asked if \$40,000 is what the parish “has to” make at the festival. She wondered if there could be other fundraisers that would be less stressful.
- Father Mark said the festival is a tradition for the parish. Soccer clubs from many schools participate in the tournament held in conjunction with the festival.
- Kristine said engaging people to become involved in the festival was down for the third year. Sign-ups were challenging because parishioners could sign up on a paper list in the narthex or online. Merging those sign-ups was time-consuming. Jessica Lathrop said many parents found it difficult to commit to a specific time to volunteer because they did not know what time their children’s soccer games were scheduled.
- Cheslee said growing the turn-out for the festival is important. She suggested finding an app to schedule volunteers and the soccer tournament.
- Kristine said the festival is a great event, but the chairpersons know to plan for better parking, more port-a-johns and hand-washing stations, and adequate food and drink. She said she will appreciate input from Pastoral Council members for improving the event.

## **VI. New Business**

- ***School Update***

Father Mark said the school expenses are in line with the budget. Enrollment is 620 students. Seventy percent are Catholic. Pre-K and Kindergarten Round-Ups are scheduled at the end of January.

- ***Fall Clean-up Weekend***

Kristine said fall clean-up of the parish grounds is scheduled for Saturday, November 16. Volunteers can meet in the west parking lot at 10 a.m. Volunteers are asked to bring rakes and gloves. Parishioner Tim Bialas will provide a trailer for haul away. Norah, Barb, Kristine, Mary and Cheslee volunteered to provide a crock pot of soup for the volunteer lunch.

- ***Meet & Greet Topics***

- Barb said a parishioner asked if Father Mark needed help in any way. Father Mark said he oftentimes has back-to-back meetings and does not have time to prepare a meal for himself. He said a casserole once a month would be appreciated!
- Cheslee said a parishioner asked if the church could be open longer. Barb suggested printing the church’s open hours in the bulletin. However, when school is in session, there is a safety issue since the church and school buildings are connected.
- Bill Fell emailed a comment he had from a parishioner who did not appreciate the Vote For/Against cards in the pews and narthex. Father Mark said he was following the Archbishop’s request that these cards be made available.
- Barb said a visitor from South Dakota told her she felt very welcomed at the liturgy.
- Kristine said many commented on the need to renovate the Parish Center. She said more information will be coming soon and a committee will be forming.

- ***Pastor Comments***

Father Mark thanked the Pastoral Council for their hard work this year. He said the council would not have a December meeting but the Meet & Greet should be held as scheduled on December 7-8.

**VII. Closing**

Kristine moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mary Ellen seconded the motion. Father Mark led the Parish Prayer to close the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

<b>Future Meetings</b>	<b>Future Meet &amp; Greets</b>
January 14	January 4-5
February 11	February 1-2
March 11	March 1-2
April 8	April 5-6
May 13	May 3-4
June 10	June 7-8

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Coyle  
Recording Secretary