

St. Peter Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Date: December 19, 2023

Attendance

<u>Clergy and Staff, Invited Guests</u>	<u>Members</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Msgr. Kurwicky, Pastor● Fr. Tom Alber, Associate Pastor● Enrique Castro, Deacon● Gayle Trachsel, School Principal● Yasica Buitrago, Hispanic Ministry● Aurora Avalos, Hispanic Ministry● Beverly McCracken, Business Manager● Jacob Hartman, Seminararian	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Brad Shimmens (2025), President● Nathan Raymer (2024), Vice President● Theresa Stegeman (2024), Secretary● Kathy Hillen (2024)● Dr. Conrad Balcer (2024)● Mary Hegeman (2025)● Robert Riebold (2025)● Darby Carel (2026)● Ellen Palada (2026)● Diane Struemph (2026)

Agenda and Minutes

Prayer by Msgr. Kurwicky

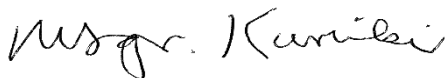
1. Pastor Update

- a. Church bell tower was looked at by Larry, custodian, and he was able to fix it, thus saving the parish \$11,000!
- b. Msgr. Kurwicky will be meeting with Will West and Kyle (Bldg Committee) to get a bid for a new sound system for the uncarpeted church
 - i. Current system is from early 2000's and very outdated
 - ii. New bid will be for a new system with modern equipment and uncarpeted church
 - iii. Hoping parishioners will be drawn back if they can hear better in the church
- c. Pew Kneelers are showing signs of wear
 - i. Some tearing and shredding have been noticed on some kneelers
 - ii. Msgr. Kurwicky will check warranty on kneelers
- d. Christmas Mass will be in the Church & Selinger Center (4:30 PM only) with TV's to broadcast the Mass
 - i. Other Masses will include 12 AM and 9 AM Christmas morning
 - ii. The 4 local parishes are trying to stagger Masses in town for everyone
 - iii. Collection baskets will be passed during Christmas Mass to increase funds
- e. Penance Services
 - i. All done well/well attended
 - ii. Multiple around town and one full day for St. Peter school kids to attend
- f. Attendance
 - i. Overall attendance has not been increasing

- ii. We are seeing more out of church families at 4:30 PM Mass, most likely the time suits their families better
 - g. Giving Tree
 - i. Very successful overall
 - ii. 1 major problem - ½ of the Walmart gift cards were not activated before giving out. Many angry people contacted the Parish Office to complain
 - iii. Replacement cards were being purchased to make the situation right
 - h. Museum
 - i. Items from the museum will be going to the school
 - ii. Msgr. Kurwicky would like to see it become a descent museum for all to learn to appreciate their heritage and thus more likely to stay close to their Parish
 - iii. The money must be used or it will be lost
- 2. School Update
 - a. School calendar for next year is currently being worked on
 - b. Standardized test results
 - i. Results are back and students all been given their scores
 - ii. As a whole, the school is testing above the national average
 - iii. Results were also all above the diocesan level except for 1 category
 - c. Hispanic Ministry brought people over to perform a dance and explain the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe for the school kids
 - d. School expansion project
 - i. On temporary hold
 - ii. Still awaiting funds
 - iii. Brad has an email with the bid and will discuss it with Msgr. Kurwicky
 - e. Big Bucks Fundraiser
 - i. Moving forward with plans for April 12, 2024
 - ii. Running into some issues with tickets (virtual/digital vs numbered physically)
 - iii. As of now, we have \$17,000+ in the account from sponsors
- 3. Finance Update
 - a. Monitoring the budget
 - i. Currently under budget, which is normal for this time of year
 - ii. Reassured that donations do increase at Christmas and through the end of the year
 - iii. Budget will be reviewed again in January
 - b. Staff update
 - i. Has been quite a bit of staff turnover recently
 - ii. Can easily use 2 more people on staff in the Parish Office
 - iii. Personnel and salary need to be discussed
- 4. Pastoral Plan Update
 - a. We are currently following the Pastoral Plan

- b. The communication position in the office is lacking
 - c. Hoping to make the position attractive to be able to keep that person long term
5. World Day of Caring Update
- a. 300 meals were given out
 - b. 50 meals per location/some locations needed more
 - c. Some leftovers, and those meals were taken to various places
 - d. There was enough food and volunteers to make the event successful
 - e. Deacon Ric Telthorst suggested getting a sticker to put on the box to say where it came from
6. Hispanic Ministry Update
- a. Every year they try to add something to their calendar
 - b. This year they added the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe/the event at school
 - c. There has been good participation overall to get people involved
 - d. Attendance at Mass is increasing slightly
 - e. Next year they will promote the event for the parish community
7. Other news
- a. Every Sacred Family Resource
 - i. Darby requested the council to look into the resource
 - ii. Gives discussion questions about the weekly readings
 - iii. Can be included into the parish bulletin and weekly school newsletter
 - iv. Darby will do a follow-up to make sure we can have multiple downloads and shrink it for the parish needs
 - v. Annual cost is \$149
 - b. Meal Train for Parishioners
 - i. Darby would like to head a Meal Train
 - ii. Can be used for babies, illness, etc.
 - iii. Darby will put a note in the bulletin to get people lined up to start a meal train if/when people are in need
 - c. Sale-A-Rama
 - i. Very successful!
 - ii. Raised \$11,000, which was up from \$6,000 from last year
 - iii. Non-taxed stewardship event
8. Next meeting
- a. Tuesday, Meeting on March 19, 2024
 - b. 7:00 pm in the rectory meeting space

Closing Prayer by Msgr. Kurwicksi



Pastor



President