

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



April 16, 2025

In-Person

6:00 – p.m.

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

Excused: Mary Alston, Emerson Porter, Christine Yatchak

Opening Prayer: Jackie Dombrowski asked all members to read and reflect on John 15:1-17. Our prayer included an insightful discussion on our reflections.

Announcements:

- Lorie Skeff has resigned from Pastoral Council. Donna sent a note thanking her for her service.
- Deanery reps: The new Parish Deaneries have not yet been set up. Christine Yatchak and Jackie Dombrowski are the representatives for Our Lady of Lourdes.
- Safe Environment training – Everyone covered for this year except Donna who will renew her Safe Environment training online by September, 2025.

Ice Breaker: “Two Lies and a Truth” –Jackie Dombrowski

Parish Director’s Report:

- The individual photos taken at the last meeting will not work for what Deb had planned. A new group photo will be taken at the June meeting.
- Parish Membership continues to grow. At the Easter vigil our newest members (formerly of St Mary’s) will be candle lighters.
- Parking lot project: We are still one permit short according to the city. Patricia is working on obtaining the permit and is meeting with an attorney from the Archdiocese for counsel.
- Archdiocese is starting a lay formation initiative. First step: a survey of priests, deacons and paid staff.

Spotlight Articles update: Upcoming Spotlight and Unsung Disciples articles were covered by Judeen.

Reflections on needs of the parish:

- Volunteers
- New members: Quarterly breakfast, blessing, introduce new members – Jim Stamatakos volunteered to spearhead this initiative.
- Youth and young families: Should we offer childcare during programs? What about bringing back the activity bags after checking with Patricia first. Denise Haussy will spearhead this initiative.
- Ushers: Requires training so they know what to do with the collection money. It’s not difficult but there is a specific procedure to follow.
- Greeters: Welcoming, answering questions etc.
- Adult Servers at every Mass: we are covered for 4 pm; need a few more at 8 am and 10:30 pm

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Reflections on the strengths of the parish through Committee Reports:

- **Octoberfest:** Barb Webber – Lots is going on in the planning phase, as we are 5 months away.
 - Our kitchen coordinator has left the parish. The Committee has a plan for this year but we will need a coordinator going forward. The scouts do Friday night but the rest of the weekend requires a coordinator. Committee has a job description.
 - The price of chicken is 156% higher than what it was last year. John Rupena has also retired, so the discount we got on pulled pork is not guaranteed. Searching for options.
 - External solicitor for baskets is also needed.
 - Looking for more artists and several of our artists have retired.
 - New appliances will be in the kitchen within a month. Kitchen volunteers will be trained.
- **Social Justice:** Pat McKay
 - Jackson Park cleanup is on the morning of April 26.
 - Darryl Morin will speak on Immigration Issues at St Elizabeth Ann Seton on May 18 at 9:30 am
 - All Saints Spaghetti dinner on April 27 – we have two tables and three baskets to donate to the event.
- **Discipleship Institute:** no report
- **Liturgy:** Deb Steppe
 - Holy Thursday service 7 pm,
 - Good Friday - Guided meditation at noon which is based on the Stations of the Cross led by Tanya Gross; traditional Passion and Veneration service at 7pm
 - Holy Saturday – Vigil at 7 pm
 - Easter Sunday Masses 8 am and 10:30 am
- **Formation:** Jackie Dombrowski
 - Reports sent to Counsel by Steve and Maggie. May 4th is Prayerpalooza- one Mass at 9 am for parish
- **Youth Representative:** Emerson Porter – no report
- **Marketing/Communication:** Jim Stamatakos- no report

Next meeting: May 21, 2025

Opening prayer for May meeting: Cory Anshus

Closing Prayer: Deb Steppe

Respectfully submitted, Cory Anshus
