

ST. JEROME PASTORAL COUNCIL FEBRUARY 5, 2026, MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Jackson at 7:03pm.

Members present: Chairman Dan Jackson, Angee Clark-Hellon, Lucy Ehrhardt, Jan Gremaud, Vice Chairman John Hopkins, Kelly Houston, Tom Mines, Joel Petry, Gail Wolff, Brenda Neumann, Fr. Kevin Laughery

Members absent: Paul Baumgartner, Betsy Weinel

Opening Prayer was offered by Kelly Houston.

No additions or corrections to the January 7, 2026, Minutes. Motion was made by John Hopkins and seconded by Angee Clark-Hellon to accept the Minutes as presented; motion carried. Minutes approved.

Monthly Reports

Pastor: Fr. Kevin is working on Evangelical Catholic and has been meeting with them weekly the past four weeks. Will be inviting other people/introducing a new way of thinking, being apostolic, starting with our own communities of people who are mature in their faith and willing to speak among one another and possibly to more people. This is progressing. Our Centennial Campaign reached our goal and surpassed it. Evangelical Catholic is one of those things. HVAC in the church building is renewed/repared. We may still be requiring a computer program to control things. We were going forward writing to the bishop a letter that had a half dozen projects but found out we were not quite ready. Fr. Kevin finished a series of meetings with our St. John Neumann families per our parish family agreement. We have a majority compliance. There are a couple of families that need to do better next year. That way, St. John Neumann can prepare a budget for the coming school year. We have made a start on a principal search as Mr. Hart is retiring the end of the 2026-27 school year. We hope to have a new principal identified a year from now.

Written Monthly Reports: No questions on the monthly reports submitted for Youth Ministry, St. John Neumann and Treasurer's Report. Dan commented that \$80,000 was contributed in December and a total of \$316,000 cash was brought in for the Centennial Campaign in 2025.

Old Business

Centennial Campaign: Dan asked if the last solicitation contact has been made to parishioners. One more letter will go out with no more campaign solicitation calls to be made. After a reasonable time has elapsed, prayer request calls to parishioners for can be started.

Monthly Fellowship Calendar: The Lenten Speaker Series, with five Sunday afternoon sessions 2:30-4:00pm, will be included as fellowship opportunities. February 22, Marian Love; March 1, Fr. Jorge Sanchez, OMV; March 8, Tim A.; March 15, Fr. David Uribe, OMI; March 22, Sue Diaz. The speakers will be offered a stipend of \$100.

Campus Security: Paul had applied for a grant, but Angee indicated he had not yet heard anything. Dan mentioned getting a Ring-type camera, monitored in the office, for the St. Joseph's Hall. Brenda expressed concerns about upholding the rule that no one is to come in the lower-level door. With all the construction and repairs being scheduled, we won't recognize many people needing to get in. (We no longer keep the church open as Brenda had found a stranger in the narthex restroom.) The office needs a Ring camera (which has been purchased) and the ability to buzz in visitors as had been done at the previous house. Fr. Kevin said that both buildings need to have a wi-fi connection. Joel suggested that if we put up a Ring camera at the door, this would be a deterrent to any unauthorized person just wanting to get in. There was further discussion about issuing different temporary codes to those who are authorized to be here for

Old Business (Continued – Campus Security)

specific reasons. Brenda will work up some procedures for handling visitors—authorized and unauthorized. She will make a sign for the lower-level door directing visitors to the office as well. Joel asked if Ring cameras are being installed. Paul is working on this. Dan will reach out to Paul about purchasing a Ring camera for the St. Joseph's Hall.

New Business

Sound System: Steve Shininger (Music Director) reported that the sound system has been popping. John said that we need to get someone from Swing City Music to reevaluate the sound system. Currently, for our Facebook feed, we go from analog to digital. There are no open frequencies and Steve has to scramble to find a frequency so he can get a mic to communicate on the system so it can be picked up when we do the recordings for Facebook. Everyone who has a device and the church's password is using up bandwidth on the wi-fi. That takes away frequencies and that's where multiple times it's dropped. Part of it has to do with the sound system and the board. Dan added that it could be set up as a "Secure" and a "Guest" with microphones, Facebook, etc., on the "Secure" and everyone else would be a "Guest." They would be logging in to the church. Who is the administrator for the church? John is doing some research on this.

Holy Hour for Peace: Jan mentioned to Fr. Kevin that the bishops are asking for a special Holy Hour for Peace. She provided him with information on how this is to be structured.

Web Page: Jan and Brenda were noticing that the web page needs an update. Jan will work with Mark Neumann to get up some new pictures. After some research, Jan learned that various sources charge fees for icons, pictures and templates. Working with Mark, they plan to try to develop something inhouse. Fr. Kevin and Dan added that eventually whatever we do to the website is part of the Diocesan umbrella for approval due to security concerns.

Web Site: Dan recommended that if there is a replacement for Sr. Linda Mary, that person would be responsible for our digital footprint, our web site, Facebook and other social media communication that we do. Jan said that at St. Paul each person in their discipline had their own code where they could get in to the website and input their informational updates. It didn't have to go through one person.

Pulse of the Parish: Joel asked about the parish calendar. Is there one source or person that posts updates? Brenda responded that the official parish calendar is on our website. Jodi coordinates all activities to be posted. The calendar is no longer posted in the bulletin due to inevitable changes and updates. The subject of monitoring the vacant convent house was brought up now that Sr. Linda Mary has moved to Springfield. After some discussion it was agreed that after final clean out, any remaining and unwanted housewares, small furniture, etc., could be donated to the parish rummage sale in May. The discussion ended with everyone agreeing they missed seeing Sr. Linda Mary with her guitar over near the choir at the Masses.

There being no further business, Kelly offered the closing Prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2026, at 7:00pm, in St. Joseph's Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Wolff, Recorder