

St. James Pastoral Advisory Council Minutes

October 13, 2026

Meeting opened with the “Amazing Parish Prayer” at 6:00

In Attendance: Fr. Nelson, Theresa Gilliam, Patricia Salmon, Carmen Lambert, Allee Yingling, Margarita Gallegos, Theresa Aasen, Robert Bottoms, Yolanda Garcia, Joanne Baker, Dagoberto Garcia, Ralph Cook, Dennis Horan, Patricia Nava

Minutes of previous meeting were approved. Motion by Patricia, 2nd by Yolanda

Financial Report: For July and August our income was \$64,881 which is above budget by \$15,741 and our expenses were \$36,081 which was less than budget by \$14,578 so things are going in right direction. Our two fundraisers St. James Family Festival netted \$9,495 and the International Food Festival netted \$11,004. Financial Advisory Council meets Dec. 1 at 6:00 pm.

Education and Faith Formation: Every week a student from each class will take home the Pilgram Rosary bag. Circle of Grace classes had more students attending this year. On Nov. 1st 3 confirmation students will talk about their saint they have chosen. On Nov. 15th the 8th grade will serve Mass and on Dec. 6th the 7th grade will serve Mass. Confirmation will be June 30 at 6pm and First Communion will be June 6 at 1pm. The final class and picnic will be on June 13. OCIA first rite is this weekend. We still need substitute teachers.

Youth – The 5th-8th grade youth group still needs an adult leader. There is a retreat in Little Rock on November 8th for 7th and 8th grade students. Allee reported that there is a need for more help with the CYM for the high school students. If you are available and feel the Lord is calling you to this ministry, please contact the church office. They have 40 kids with a great love for the Lord. They have good weekly meetings but need more time to plan activities and speakers for weekly meetings. If you know a police officer, fireman, social worker, etc that could be a speaker and help inspire our youth to serve in their community, please contact Allee or the church office. The K4J meets 3 out of the 4 Wednesdays of the month.

Liturgy: Nov 1st All Saints Day - regular weekend Mass schedule. Nov. 2nd All Souls Mass at noon, 6 pm English and 7 pm Spanish. Thanksgiving Masses – Wednesday noon, (no Mass Wednesday evening). Thursday 26th – 10:00 am. Sunday Nov. 29 starts Advent. Dec. 8 Mass for Immaculate Conception Noon – English and 6:30 pm Spanish. Our Lady of Guadalupe – Friday Dec. 11 Rosary at 10:15 pm, Mass at 11:00 pm, Singing after Mass. Saturday Dec. 12 OLOG – 5:30 regular Eng. Mass, 7:00 pm Spanish Mass. Christmas Schedule – Dec. 24 Thursday 4 pm at St. Richards, 5:30 English St. James, 7 pm Spanish. Christmas Day 25th – 11:00 am English, 12:30 pm Spanish. Dec. 31 New Years Eve – Noon English Mass, Jan. 1 – 10:00 am English Mass, Noon Spanish Mass. Jan. 3 Epiphany of the Lord – every kid receives a present.

Buildings and Grounds: Parking lot – Church paid a tree company to remove trees; a company has been selected for the asphalt. Church Floor – White River Flooring will take out carpet and replace with new floor tile sometime starting after Nov. 1. Would take a week to complete. One donor is paying for two stained glass windows- Pope St.

John Paul II and St. Francis of Assisi. One AC unit needs replacing in the New Church. We have chosen one company from 3 bids.

Communications: Please communicate with office regarding group events.

IFF : We have not set a date for the evaluation meeting. More info on results of IFF will come later.

Parish Life: Father's Birthday celebrations went well. Thank you for all that helped and attended Saturday Night or Sunday morning. Nov. 1 there will be a celebration for All Saint's Day and Father's mom's birthday. Dec. 16 is Father's 9th anniversary of his priesthood. We will celebrate after the Saturday night Mass on Dec. 19 and again after the Spanish Mass on the 20th. **CCM** is reporting 15-20 active members. Some (6-7) of these are attending OCIA class. They cook on Wednesday night, attend Mass and have reflection time after Mass. **Vincentians** are looking at the roof on rectory. Will look at a temporary fix and reevaluate next year. They are also helping on Wednesday nights with youth. **Charismatic** Conference is Oct. 30 – Nov. 1. **Ladies Guild** has new officers for President Joanne Baker and V.Pres Margie Lercher and Alison Oakes as Secretary. Debbie Bond remains as Treasurer. Their first breakfast was a success. Their next meeting is Monday November 2nd after the 6 pm Mass for All Souls. They are asking for baked goods and crafts for their booth at the Pumpkins and Peppermints Fall celebration at the Carmichael Center Saturday Nov. 7th **Knights** – Fr asked them to think about a St. Patrick's day celebration. It was also noted that Lent starts Feb. 10th and a fish fry during Lent is possible. **Sizzing Seniors** had a guest speaker on Medicare.

Father's Remarks – Father Nelson thanks the entire parish for their generosity of time and talents and donations. We are a growing parish community with one weekend 760 attending Mass. Please reflect on how you can serve your parish. In 2028 St. James will celebrate its 100th year as a parish. Please share your ideas on how this may look. We want to showcase our history and growth over the 100 years. Will we have a dinner, invitations to former members, pastors, etc. Do we want to invite Catholics that no longer practice their faith to "come home" for this celebration? Please think about how you as a current member can promote this anniversary. Send your thoughts to the church office or to Theresa Gilliam.

Future events:

Next meeting of Pastoral Advisory Council is Feb. 16, 2027 at 6:00 pm.