

**APPROVED**  
**By Pastoral Council**  
**October 6, 2022**



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### **Saint Anne's Pastoral Council – Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 1, 2022

Location: KWL Room, in-person meeting

<b>Attending</b>		<b>Regrets</b>
<b>Pastoral Council Members</b>		<b>Members</b>
Father Matthew, Pastor	Heather Hickey, recording secretary	Don Griffith, Vice-Chair
Bronwynn Cutts, Chair	Dean Schmidt	Jhoana Bernarte
Chad Sawatsky	Val Stone	Robin Sander
Reylan Lozada		Len Florizone
<b>Pastoral Council Resources and Guests</b>		<b>Resources</b>
None.		

Meeting commenced at approximately 7:08 p.m. CST

1. Opening Prayer Father Matthew

Father led the council in the opening prayer, gospel reading and discussions.

2. Welcome to New Pastoral Council Members

The Chair welcomed new council member Dean Schmidt, and introductions were made with all present. Our other new member, Jhoana, was not able to attend but we will welcome her at the October meeting.

3. Approval of Agenda

The Chair brought forward the decision item to approve the Draft Sept 1, 2022 Agenda, calling for any other business to be added or revisions needed. Hearing none, the motion to approve the agenda as presented was voted on as all in favour and carried as unanimous.

4. Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising from the Minutes

The Chair brought forward the decision item to approve the Draft June 2, 2022 Minutes, calling for any comments or revisions needed. Hearing none, the motion to approve the minutes as presented was voted on as all in favour and carried as unanimous.

Matter arising from the minutes were to review the pastoral council member terms. All member terms and dates were confirmed. The record of these terms will now be maintained by the parish office.

5. State of the Parish

The update on the State of the Parish was presented by Father Matthew, and highlighted the choir engagement at each mass. Choirs are slowly coming back since disbanding over the pandemic period, and some members and leaders have not returned. Christine Bird and Jennifer Rommens have now

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stepped into the choir lead roles. As the 9am choir is not ready to come back. Ken Neitz, musical coordinator for the parish, is working on building a choir for 9am. Further updates included the possibility of a children's choir being brought together.

Discussions on the website noted some navigation improvements are needed. Suggestions included to make the home page searchable, to make this website more user friendly. Dean Schmidt, noted professional experience with websites and indicated having search options and making landing pages for the sections as possible improvements. Father Matthew confirmed the suggestions would be taken into consideration.

The ministry volunteer booklet for Steward Sunday was presented by Heather Hickey, who confirmed there is also an on-line option for viewing. Feedback was requested on the booklet and all noted the booklet as well laid out, and well presented. Further discussions reviewed the stewardship drive and plans, including areas where volunteers are needed.

Using the synod style of for sharing feedback and opinions, Father Matthew presented on the following:

- Father Matthew outlined his vision for music ministry and provided a draft version of the Vision for Music Ministry Community Handbook. Father noted that he had also reviewed the document with the musical coordinator. The intent of the document is to provide a general guideline for music ministry at the parish that also educates the music leaders on acceptable diocesan practices. Feedback included suggestions for minimal changes in language and other comments. Fr Matthew will use that for building the final version of the document.
- Father Matthew shared an application form created with the intent of being a first step in the process when parish members come forward with suggested committee activities. This document, a committee application form, included questions to be asked when forming a new committee. Feedback was that all agreed with the expectation to start meetings of all ministries and committees with prayer. This was noted as an appreciated component of parish meetings that brings value to participants. Further feedback suggested changes to the opening language in the document, to start off on a more positive note to put at ease those who may be bringing forward new suggestions. Father Matthew will solidify the documents, based on the other feedback received.

## 6. Committee Updates

- Refugee Sponsorship Committee (RSC): Two refugee sponsorships (two women from Afghanistan; and one man from Syria) are actively ongoing. The RSC teams are moving forward with both sponsorships. Neither sponsorship have a timeline for potential arrival of the refugees in Canada, as it is hard to know a definite timelines in these circumstances. The RSC leads have confirmed that things are progressing as expected. Father Matthew noted there is potential for a third sponsorship opportunity, being that a member of our parish (Christy Dupuis) has approached Father Matthew. These discussions were noted as very preliminary and more information will be provided should this progress.

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- Truth & Reconciliation Committee (TRC): The papal novena masses and Indigenous teachings included, leading up to the Pope's Visit to Edmonton in July were noted as very fruitful. The masses went very well, and the attendance was positive but there is work to be done. The TRC committee is meeting soon to discuss goals and next activities.
- Small Groups: Father explained the intent and purpose of small group ministry as a new initiative, utilizing the success of the synod meetings and approach. This ministry will be a big push for this year, and will be a faith sharing opportunity for members to meet on a deeper more personal level. Meetings will take place in member homes who will host small groups of 6 to 8 people. This ministry is anticipated to be appealing to current parish members and those new to the parish as well. The meetings are being planned to occur for eight weeks over four months. Council members provided feedback to Father on the plans, and insights from their experiences with the synod meetings. Further discussions included ways to welcome those who are frustrated with the Church or have questions, concerns, etc.

#### 7. Other Business

- Members discussion the meeting times, based on the suggestion that came forward over the summer to possibly change the start time of the meetings to 8:00 p.m. Feedback from those present noted a mixed review of those wanting to start later, or remain at the same 7:00 p.m. start time. The discussions concluded with the decision to leave the meetings at 7:00 p.m. start, and to revisit this as needed in a few months time.
- Vice Chair Role: The current Vice-Chair has communicated well that they do not intend to step into the Chair role at the end of June 2023. Therefore, they are willing to step down as Vice-Chair, and remain as a council member for the duration of their term. Discussions reviewed if it is in the best interest of the council to elect a new Vice-Chair now, who will then have experience to step into the Chair role after June 2023, having the continuity of being a member and working with the current chair during the remainder of this year. Recognizing not all council members were present, the decision was to request members to discern on letting their name stand for the role of Vice-Chair and bring this forward at the October meeting.

#### 8. Action Items Review & Next Meeting

- Next Meeting Thursday, October 6, 2022

#### 9. Closing Prayer: Father led the Council in closing prayer.

Meeting terminated at 8:51 p.m. CST.