

St. Joe's Pastoral & Mission Council  
Meeting Minutes  
4/29/21

- Opening Prayer
- Welcome and Introductions
- Review and Approval of Minutes (suspended for this meeting)
- Reports
  - Council chair and others
    - Current status of Parish Opening
    - Leadership Meeting Postponed
    - Outline of current Parish Issues:
      - Vatican Statement
      - Closure of St. Pat's
      - Safe & Celebratory reopening of St. Joe's
      - Vacancies on the Pastoral and Mission Council
      - Planning for a strategic plan process that will tentatively begin in the fall
  - Committee Reports (suspended for this meeting)
  - Liaison Reports (suspended for this meeting)
- Old Business (suspended for this meeting)
- New Business (suspended for this meeting)
- Formation – *Everyone Leads* by Chris Lowney (suspended for this meeting)
- Overview of the leave of absence and transition:
  - Fr. Chris Weekly – Provincial Assistant for Pastoral Ministries
  - Dn. Steve Wodzanowski
- Forum (see attached for questions asked)
  - Responses from Council, Chris Weekly, Deacon Steve
- Summary and Next Steps
- Closing Prayer
- **Recording of meeting can be accessed by emailing [markp@stjosephparish.org](mailto:markp@stjosephparish.org)**

1. How will you lead us laypeople to create genuine progress toward a Church hierarchy that values all people equally, that recognizes women as fully human and fully capable of and suited for the priesthood, and that operates in a transparent and responsive fashion as it stewards the incredible gift and responsibility of Church leadership?
2. Who do we contact with questions or concerns regarding the parish? Is it a parish council member? Or?
3. Since it is a Parish Council not and not a Pastoral Council as it has been in the past, will the council change and expand to include people from the parishes that are closing so they can be part of their transition?
4. Hoping you will address the planned departure of Father Glen
5. What role will the Parish Council play in identifying a new Pastor? Do you feel heard by the Jesuit West (and Archdiocese)? Do you feel empowered by the Parish community?
6. Will you discuss the historic and regional and world context of the changes that have happened within the catholic church and the parish in the last ten years?
7. Do we as a parish have any control over who will be our next priest? Can you ask Fr Glenn if he would be willing to stay in touch so that we know that he is OK?
8. Is the parish committed to anti-racist activities?
9. What implications are there for our parish based on the way Fr. Glen feels he was treated by the hierarchy?
10. What now?
11. Will the parishioners of St. Joseph's have a say in the selection of Fr. Glen's replacement?
12. What changes to the role of the Parish Council are envisioned?
13. What is the transition plan? Who is the interim pastor? And why am I being asked to process my feelings on Zoom with the parish council? These feels odd.
14. How can we stand in solidarity with the LGBT+ community? How can we support Fr. Glen? How can we make sure that Deacon Steve is not overburdened?
15. How can the Parish Council ensure that priests stay 'happy' in their job so this doesn't keep happening?
16. Who will coordinate social justice work while Steve is parish coordinator?
17. Duties of staff to maintain the functioning of our parish community will necessarily be reallocated. Have duties been so allocated?
18. Do you see St. Joseph Parish has a courageous community willing to defend the holiness of all people regardless of sexual preference and celebrate the sacred love between two committed people?
19. Who will take over Deacon Steve's existing responsibilities and Ministry after he transitions to leading the Parish?
20. Regarding inclusion of St. Pat's and St Mary's parishioners: Will St Joe's be having a deaf interpreter for St Pat's people, a Spanish speaking faith minister for St Mary's people, and will we be assuming responsibility for St Mary's Food Bank?

21. We can all respond individually to the unjust discrimination that was expressed through the Vatican's letter, banning blessings to same-sex couples. Is there any plan to respond as a parish?

22. How will the parish address the grief of parishioners in the departure of Fr. Glen and what will leadership look going forward--what is the vision? How does the parish view morale among parishioners at this time? Does the parish see a need for reconciliation and support with her LGBTQ+ members who may feel sadness, pain, and exhaustion from the Vatican's statement on the blessings of same sex unions, combined with the specific LGBTQ reasons (acknowledging that the departure is multi-faceted) for Fr. Glen's departure? Does the parish desire to retain her LGBTQ+ members?