

## St. Edward the Confessor Pastoral Council Meeting November 16, 2022


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**Presiding:** Jean Latu

**Members Present:** Father Philip Smith, Mary Ann Wilkinson, Don Estephan, Rolando Ruiz, Lisa Mercurio, Matt Hoelke, Bill Tally, Bob Smart (via phone)

**Members Absent:** None

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS	ACTION / FOLLOW-UP
<b>Call to Order:</b>	The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm.	
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Bill Tally	
<b>Minutes:</b>	The minutes of the October 2022 meeting were approved.	
<b>COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT</b>		
<b>Council Schedule</b>	Ms. Latu distributed the assigned Trinity gatherings for this month.	
<b>PASTOR REPORT</b>		
<b>Mass Attendance</b>	Father Smith presented the statistics of Sunday Mass attendance for the past 6 years showing a decline in numbers during COVID with a subsequent slow improvement. The goal is to return to 2018 numbers. It was suggested that parishioners have also not attended due to the capital campaign and construction. Nationwide there has been a notable decline in attendance at all Christian churches.	
<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>		
<b>Pastoral Center Building</b>	Father Smith reviewed that Bishop Vann is scheduled to bless the new center after the 5:30 PM Mass on Saturday, November 19 <sup>th</sup> followed by a light reception. Open House for all parishioners will occur after all Masses on Sunday, November 20 <sup>th</sup> . Father Smith thanked those that are scheduled to be volunteer docents for the open house. The permanent certificate of occupancy will be received by tomorrow. Father Smith reported that the school children were the first to use the Pastoral Center and the 13 conference rooms are regularly being booked. A Christmas wish list for items needed for the Pastoral Center that were not included in the budget, such as kitchen accessories, room audio visual equipment, extra chairs and tables, will be published in the bulletin.	
<b>Parish Strategic Planning</b>	Father Smith reported that the Disciple Maker Index survey initially was not available as the access and QR codes were not working but currently are fixed and are available in English and Spanish. The survey is being	

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	publicized in the bulletin, on the website and social media platforms and in the school post. The survey closes on December 12 <sup>th</sup> .	
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>		
<b>Parish Events</b>	The annual bilingual Thanksgiving Mass will be held at 9 AM at St. Edward's. Participants will be encouraged to bring food to donate to Family Assistance Ministries. All food will be blessed at the end of Mass. Upcoming events include Noel Night and Christmas on the Bluff. The Christmas Mass schedule will include one overflow Mass at 4 PM in Knight Hall. It will be the first Mass celebrated in the Pastoral Center.	
<b>COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS</b>		
<b>Advent reflection books</b>	Father Smith reported that the Bishop Barron advent books have not been available for purchase for distribution to the parishioners.	Mr. Tally volunteered to look into their availability.
<b>Suggestions</b>	Mr. Smart suggested that the We Remember Mass and the Knights of Columbus Mass Remembrance could be combined into one for better attendance. He also queried whether St. Edward's could host a gathering of ministry leaders from other parishes for an exchange of ideas in Knight Hall.	Father Smith offered to bring up the possibility of hosting an all parish gathering at the next deanery meeting.
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Bill Tally	
<b>Adjournment:</b>	There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM	
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	The next Meeting will be January 18, 2023.	
Respectfully submitted by Mary Ann Wilkinson.  <b>APPROVED:</b>  _____ <b>Jean Latu</b> <b>Chair, Pastoral Council</b>		