January 18, 2024 Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

The council came to order with prayer at 7:05 pm. Msgr. Watkins, Kip, Kathy, Anita, and John attended.

* The council sought a status update on the finalization of the carillon and the improvements to the Stations of the Cross. The council also sought an update on the results of October's parish count.
* The council discussed the Advent/Immaculate Conception celebration, observing that it was very well attended and seemed to be widely enjoyed, and discussed plans for holding it again in 2024, perhaps for the Feast of St. Nicholas.
* The council discussed several issues with the parish's physical facilities and how to prioritize among remedies, noting in particular the lighting in the parking lot, the sinking in the parking lot, bad acoustics in the parish center, problems with the kitchen, and ducting issues in the parish center.
* The council discussed the success of the Christmas bazaar.
* The council discussed signage to promote ministries in the parish, perhaps via bulletin boards in the Parish Center and the parking lot entrance area.
* The council discussed establishing a welcoming and engagement committee.
* The council discussed having a Sunday where everyone gets a nametag so people can learn the names of fellow parishioners they may have met but whose names they have forgotten.
* The council tentatively selected April 14 for a ministry fair to promote participation in various ministries and communities in the parish, especially those facing shortages, like altar servers.
* The council discussed preparing for Lent and Easter, including the possibility of a parish mission or parish retreat and the council's annual egg hunt.
* The council discussed other upcoming events like the international night and potential future events like another Corpus Christi procession and a May crowning.
* The council discussed possible ways to show support for the Jewish communities in our parish boundaries.
* The council discussed holding a healing mass aimed at various local, national, and global wounds.

The council closed with prayer at 8:25pm.