

St. Joseph's Church
First Organizing Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for October 8, 2014

Father Jorge Román, Presiding

Parishioners Present: Emilio Gonzalez, Josefina Martinez, Efen Calixto, María de Jesús González, Margie Altenbach, Helen Shepherd, Kathy Hansen, Tim Taylor, Carrie Taylor, David Dore, Linda Dore (not present), Antonio Del Toro, Thomas Clark, Kevin Lynch, Shannon Clark, Olga Avila, Gregory Merena, América Hernández

Meeting was called to order by Fr. Jorge at 6:00 p.m. Fr. Jorge began with a prayer followed by a Gospel reading from **John 17:20-26**, which was read by David Dore.

Fr. Jorge explained the purpose of the Pastoral Council and what it encompasses. The excerpt below can be found in the **Constitution of the Pastoral Council, Introduction**.

“The Pastoral Council is the principal group under the authority of the Pastor that considers and proposes practical recommendations concerning the pastoral works in St. Joseph’s Parish.”

David Dore read aloud the **Guidelines for the establishment of the Parish Pastoral Council**. Guidelines state that the number of council members should be not less than six and no more than fifteen, meeting once a month in the formative stages and/or when engaging in major projects.

Fr. Jorge was asked to translate into Spanish what David Dore read in English. Helen Shepherd requested that the documents read be translated from English into Spanish and be made available to those who do not speak English. Fr. Jorge plans to make these documents available in both languages and have them added to the Parish Website; he also commented that the Website will have bilingual features in the near future.

Helen Shepherd suggested that we introduce ourselves and with 17 parishioners in attendance that took up most of the time.

Fr. Jorge has established the Constitution of the Pastoral Council for St. Joseph’s Parish using a borrowed format from his former Parish, St. Bernard’s. Fr. Jorge’s description of the Parish election mentioned a ballot with names, pictures, and statements of the candidates. There are elected positions and appointed positions as described in the **Norms for the Formation of Parish Consultative and Advisory Groups**. However, the topic of electing and appointing council members will be discussed at our next meeting.

Fr. Jorge stated that before we could go any further, a secretary to record what took place at the first meeting was needed. Margie Altenbach volunteered to help with this task.

Fr. Jorge asked that the Meeting minutes be typed and sent out via e-mail with copies of the three (3) Parish Pastoral Council documents: **Constitution, Guidelines, and Norms**.

In agreement with the parishioners in attendance, Fr. Jorge scheduled the next Parish Pastoral Council meeting for November 14, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Joseph’s Church (meeting to take place inside of the Church).

Fr. Jorge brought the First Pastoral Council meeting to a close around 7:45 p.m., requesting that the secretary lead the closing prayer.

Please NOTE: Next meeting is November 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.