

Pastoral Council Minutes  
Saint John the Evangelist Parish  
March 12, 2026

**Present:** Richard Hadnagy, Chris Rowe, Suzy Steck, Art Johnson, Wayne Bardell, Cathy Sedberry, Jennie Chancey, Father Zachary

**Call to Order:** at 6:00 pm by Richard Hadnagy

**Scripture/opening Prayer:** Father Zachary

**Chairperson's Report:** None

**Updates to Minutes:** None

**Old Business:** The WEPS banquet was well attended by St John parishioners. The AED training was well done; 25 attended.

**New Business:** The Council reported on several topics and events held while Father was deployed. The topics included the OCIA schedule, the Ladies Guild Deanery meeting success, a recap of the Knights of Columbus activities, the need to change the code for the chapel, the need to purchase new warmer for the kitchen, and the Parish Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for after mass on Easter Sunday, 5 April. Coffee and donuts to follow. The Council is also considering a date for the Spring Picnic and a date for the Around the World Festival.

**Ex-Officio Organization Reports**

a) Catholic Youth Ministry: No report

b) Finance Council: No report

c) Knights of Columbus: (Wayne Bardell) KoC Fish Fries are going well. Pricing was Adults \$15, Youth ages 9-15 yrs \$10 and Children under 8 years free.

We are participating in the Special Olympics on Friday, 13 March, and on the 9th Day of Service with the City of Enterprise on Saturday, 21 March.

We are donating monies to the Coffee County Family Services by giving \$1,000 for a budgeted amount of \$3,500 this month.

The Catholic Scholarship Contest begins this month. The prize amount is \$1,500 for a graduating senior who will be attending a university, community college, or trade school in the fall.

The Adiniwin Family was recognized by the KoC State of Alabama as the state's Family of the Month for January 2026.

Knight Exemplification will be held o March 29; a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree ceremony on March 21.

d) Ladies Guild: (Cathy Sedberry) Amanda Simmons from the Christian Mission shared her journey from walking into the Mission as a client to becoming the Executive Director. We discussed ways we could help the Mission as a group.

We also planned our Bake Sale and Auction to be held on March 28-29. Easter Baskets and Resurrection Planters will be auctioned before and after each mass.

Also being discussed is a pilgrimage trip to Hanceville AL.

We thanked the Knights for helping during our recent retreat, the Rosary Makers for the rosaries for the First Communion children, and the ladies for covering our Mother Mary in the Grotto with beautiful draping.

- e) Montessori School: No Report
- f) Facilities: Father reported that Mick Norris is working on a long list of needs.
- g) Beautification: (Art Johnson) A new edger has been purchased; pressure washing was done today.

### **Ministry Reports**

- a) St. Mary's, Geneva: No report

- b) Bereavement: (Chris Rowe)

Deceased/Funeral Services: Anna Marie McGrath DoD 2 Feb 2026 Services out of state  
Sympathy card sent 4 Feb 2026 to Matt (son) & Bonnie McGrath, 643 County Rd. 461  
Kinston, IL 36453

Bereavement Committee resources and supplies are now stored in a new 2-drawer file cabinet located in Deacon Skip's office. The file drawers contain records from 2017 to the present including lists of deceased, funeral Mass booklets, Memorial Mass booklets, Parish Council reports, and planning worksheets. Also filed are future funeral requests by parishioners.

A copy of The Rite of Christian Burial was purchased for use by the Committee in planning for funeral Masses and preparing funeral Mass booklets. The book will be kept in the new file cabinet.

Fr. Gallagher officiated at several services during Fr. Zachary's deployment. Thank you, Fr. Gallagher.

The Bereavement Committee is grateful for the support offered by Fr. Zachary, Deacon Skip and Deacon Cesar, the Parish Council, and the Knights of Columbus.

- c) Christian Services / HEARS: (Suzy Steck) Since the January meeting, clients have received \$1,163.32 In funds for utility bills, and 10 bags of food. We were unable to help 17 clients who either had bills due of more than \$300 or who had received assistance in the past six months.
- d) Sick and Homebound: Rich Hadnagy gave the list to Father.
- e) OCIA: (Jennie Chancey) We submitted 18 names to the archdiocese for the Easter Vigil, and most of those were able to attend the Rite of Election in February. Catechumens are in the middle of the Lenten Scrutinies now. We continue to receive emails and text messages asking for info about OCIA, and we've had five new people start attending classes in the

past month, even though they know they need to start over in August to begin the process of coming into the Church. Lots of interest in the next session, and current student feedback is great.

- f) Hispanic: (Raquel Nunez) The Hispanic Community is preparing the Living Way of the Cross.
- g) Religious Education: (James Pair) No report
- h) Liturgy/Decorations (Chris Rowe) Altar colors are purple for Lent.  
Palms have been ordered for Palm Sunday. 12 small; 2 large  
40 Easter lilies have been ordered from Sam's Club/Walmart  
Easter flowers have been ordered from Ivywood Florist: 1 extra-large arrangement, 2 large arrangements; 1 medium  
Additional candles and holders for the Vigil Mass were received last fall.  
The draping of statues will be on Saturday, March 21st, at 9 am.
- i) Parish Community Life: (Seth and Kat Hundley) No report

**Parishioner Issues/Discussions:** St. John Hall needs new curtains, fresh paint and other upgrades. Wayne will ask for a proposal.  
Ideas were discussed for showing appreciation to Father Gallagher for his assistance during Father Zachary's absence.

**Upcoming Calendar Events:**

Volunteer Dinner: 19 March  
Fr. Zachary Drill: 10-12 April  
Palm Sunday: 29 March  
Easter Week Activities: 2-5 April

**Next Meeting: 6:00pm, April 16, 2026**

- 41 Sick and Homebound: (Rich Hadnagy) Beverly Urich provided an updated list showing 18 parishioners being visited and receiving the Eucharist when appropriate. Beverly also noted that recently we have had calls for Holy Communion visits for two parishioners who are temporarily homebound. Pete, Peggy, and she are covering these requests.
- 42 OCIA: (Rich Hadnagy) More participants are coming. The focus now is picking a Patron Saint and determining who will be receiving sacraments at the Easter mass.
- 43 Hispanic Community: No report
- 44 Religious Education: James Pair reported on difficulties with parking in the lot between Father's home and Saint John Hall.
- 45 Liturgy/Decorations: (Chris Rowe) Diane Doyle reported that the church was decorated for Christmas on Tuesday, December 23rd. A group of volunteers arrived at 9:30 and finished by 12:30! The volunteers divided into groups to decorate specific areas of the church.

There were 40 poinsettias, 2 live trees, 1 bale of hay for the outdoor creche, 2 large arrangements for the Adoration Chapel, and 1 arrangement in front of the ambo.

The new outdoor creche was easy to set up, break down, and store.

On Sunday, January 11th, the volunteers met from 1:30-3:00 pm to take down the decorations and restore the church to Ordinary Time.

The banners will stay in Ordinary Time until Feb 17th and will be changed for Ash Wednesday.

Diane will purchase small peace lilies for either side of Saint Joseph, as there are no flowers near him.

Parish Community and Life: No report

**Parishioner Issues/Discussions:** None

**Pastor's Remarks:** Father expressed his appreciation for all the thoughts, prayers and gifts he has received. He also noted that he has been doing some OCIA with three of the soldiers.

**Upcoming Calendar Events:** Fr. Zachary will be in Washington DC one week longer than originally planned, returning to Enterprise on March 10. His March Drill Weekend will be cancelled.

**Closing Prayer:** Father Zachary at 7:30 pm.