



**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**April 8, 2026**

**Members Present:** Rev. Gabriel Baltes, OSB  
Doug Becker, Chair  
Steve Antonini  
Nora English (Video)  
Jennifer Hantsch  
John Jelinek  
John Turley  
Matthew Krumdrick  
Deacon Jack Hayes  
Dana Hengstler  
Mitch Whorlow  
Corey Humphreys

**Absent:** Jacqueline Skelly

**Guests Present:** Tom Kmiecik

**I. Opening**

Evening prayer began at 7:10 p.m., and was led by John Turley. The meeting began at 7:25 p.m.

**II. Old Business**

A. School Board – Cory Humphreys provided the following updates:

- The 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be going on a field trip to the Abbey.
- The school administrators are gathering the IReady test results and analyzing the results.
- We are planning for a new Playground for the field near the North lot. Bids are coming in around \$260k. We will be looking into whether there may be grant money that can be applied for.
- Contracts have been extended to the faculty for the 2026-2027 school year. There are 3 vacancies.
- Preschool enrollment is strong and there is a waitlist. Kindergarten enrollment is also strong.
- The 2026 Gala event was a success! There were 241 attendees and we raised \$280k.

- The PSO (Parent Student Organization) has 4 open positions. Please let us know if you know of someone who would be interested in serving.
- The SAB (Student Advisory Board) is also looking for candidates to serve on this board.
- The Daddy Daughter dance will be this Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- The Athletic Board is researching the feasibility of bring Golf to the school, and would like to see Football return.
- This year we will have a Mentor Program that is partnering with Chesterton to have 15-30 high school students mentoring SJA K-4<sup>th</sup> graders a few days a week. We are all very excited about this mentoring program.

B. Ministries – Matthew Krumdrick provided the following updates:

- Youth Ministry: Glad we had 40 kids at Easter Basket project and were able to donate 80 baskets to Sharing Connections!
- Steubenville: We hope to have a good group of students (at least 10) at Steubenville conference in June.
- Young Adult Ministry: Matthew is working on the Young Adult Easter Ball on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Outreach: At Pads night, we served 120+ dinners and had about 75 left for the rest of the residents. We had several JH and HS kids helping this month.
- Blessings in a Bag was huge success. We collected 3,000+ lbs for Fish, West Suburban FP, and Bridge Communities!
- Garden: We planted seeds this week for the garden. We will plant again in late May.
- Baby supplies collection is in May!
- Adult Faith Formation / OCIA: At the Easter Vigil, we were blessed to celebrate 6 adults entering fully into the life of the Church — 2 through Baptism and 4 through reception into full communion and Confirmation. We are now continuing with Mystagogia for those newly initiated. Our Thursday morning Bible study is in a Resurrection series right now and will continue through the summer. We are not planning a major summer series, but we are preparing a few individual gatherings along the way, including a women's Bible gathering.

### III. Pastor's Update

- A. We have a new Business Manager: Sr. Deborah Campbell. She started Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and is busy learning many new things.
- B. Father wanted to compliment Matthew Krumdrick on the great job he did with our recent OCIA candidates. Father was very impressed with the candidates' wisdom, maturity, and strong desire to want to be Catholic. He felt we has some really amazing candidates this Easter.

#### **IV. On-Going and New Business**

- Amazing Parish – is on hold until the new Pastor is in place. Fr. John Sponder has experience with Amazing Parish.
- The Parish Council will remain intact until our new Pastor takes over. We will wait to see what he vision is for the Council.
- Announcement: There is retreat May 30-31<sup>st</sup> entitled Joyful Again. It is for parents who have lost a spouse. The host is Bob Maday.
- The John Turley Letter. There was a discussion around John Turley's letter to Congressman Foster. He is concerned with anti-Catholic rhetoric. His letter was written as a private citizen.
- The Council discussed with sadness that fact that Father Gabriel would be leaving us this summer. He will be greatly missed! Father said he had hoped to continue at SJA for at least another couple of years as there are many projects that he would like see completed.

#### **V. Next Meetings**

Our next meeting will be in June 3, 2026. Father suggested we have a cookout at the Rectory, and everyone agreed that was a great idea!

#### **V. Closing Prayer**

The meeting ended at 8:45 p.m. Father Gabriel led the Council in the closing prayer.

#### **Official Prayer of Make:**

*Ever-loving God, maker of all good things,  
You made us in your image and called us through baptism  
Give us now the grace to be made into your disciples,  
And grant that in being so made, we will do as you commanded  
To go and make other disciples as we catechize, evangelize  
And put our faith into action.  
Through the intercession of our patron, St. Francis Xavier,  
St. Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints,  
We humbly make our prayer. Amen.*