

St. Mel Church  
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 5, 2023

Members Present:

Fr. Adam Zajac, Pastor	Sally Armstrong
Bill Gerken, Parish Secretary	Natale Badillo
	Rob Cahill
	Patrick Kerrigan
	Susan Mitchell

Agenda items discussed:

- Progress of music ministry/music coverage:  
The music ministry progress is going well—thanks to our director Julia, there has been enough music coverage arranged for all of the St. Mel weekend Masses. Julia has also secured a free piano for the St. Mel Music Ministry, which will be delivered to the parish at a future date. Thank you, Julia, and all of the music ministers, for your service and dedication to our St. Mel parish! We appreciate you so much! 😊
- Present parish/donor demographics and future impact upon the parish:  
As we explore our present parish demographics, we are discovering that we, as a parish, have more older (50+ parishioners) than younger ones. While the wisdom, dedication, and experience from our older church/parish members is very much appreciated, we are in need of younger families who are beginning to attend our parish to consider parish registration through St. Mel.

We, as a parish, want to be able to extend our parish welcome across the generations in hopes that our younger members of the parish will also see St. Mel as a loving, comfortable, and enjoyable parish home where they can continue to build positive memories throughout the years (as many of our older parishioners can attest to). If you, or others that you know have ideas or thoughts about activities or volunteer opportunities that we can incorporate (or continue) in our St. Mel parish community, please share those ideas with Pastoral Council members. We also welcome those who would like to volunteer with parish activities or plans...even for an hour or two. All involvement is welcome! 😊

Speaking of volunteers...

- Good news! The St. Mel Fish Fry will return this spring during Lent!  
Yay!!! The return of the St. Mel Fish Fry is welcome news! We are grateful that our caterers who are using our St. Mel Hall kitchen are willing to help us with cooking/making meals for the fish fry during Lent, but we will still need volunteers! More details will follow in the coming months, along with Fish Fry meal dates, but we are announcing this plan to everyone early so that we can all look at our calendars to carve out a little time to help. This will only be successful for our parish if we all are willing to give a little time (“many hands make light work”...right? 😊)

Thank you everyone, as always, for your support of our parish in the many ways you already do! 😊

Next Pastoral Council Meeting: Thursday November 9, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Upcoming Pastoral Council meeting dates:

- Thursday February 1, 2024
- Thursday March 14, 2024
- Thursday May 9, 2024