HELLO FROM YOUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL!

Here's a bit of information about the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), who we are and what we're up to.

St. John's Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) works with Fr. Mora, our pastor, to help us realize our parish mission: sustain parish unity, support our youth, celebrate our diversity, respect our traditions and serve others.

WHO ARE WE?
Those who currently serve on the PPC include: parishioners - Judy Andrich, Jim Asbury, Lynne Baker (secretary), Alfonso Garibay, Frances Ortiz-Chavez (chairperson), John and Kristy Reynoso; advisors - Jake Arcanin and Priscilla Silvey; clergy - Fathers Ismael Mora, Thomas Kyallo, Pat Stephenson, Deacons Joe Oberting, Jaime Tafolla, Joel Tapia Marin, Stan Thompson-Short and Sergio Velasquez.

HOW WE FUNCTION
Guidelines and bylaws help us stay on track as we strive to make our fine parish even stronger and more responsive to parishioners' needs.

Many neighboring parishes already have in place or are in the process of establishing PPCs. PPCs are formed at the direction of the Bishop, in accordance with Canon Law, and commonly adopt guidelines and bylaws, something we did in 2016.

FROM OUR GUIDELINES
The Parish Pastoral Council is a representative body of the faithful whose focus is on the whole community – its beliefs, its hopes, its joys, its needs, its sorrows, its concerns, its gifts and its pursuit of the mission of the Church. The work of the PPC is focused on mission, not on management. As stewards of Christ’s mission in the parish, the main purpose of the PPC is pastoral planning. The work of the council is governed by diocesan norms and the Code of Canon Law.

FROM OUR BYLAWS
St. John the Baptist PPC is a body of committed parish members with diverse perspectives, skills, and talents. Acting as stewards of the parish, the council’s ministry is to envision, plan, and implement policies and activities that assist the Pastor in enabling Gospel ministry. The Parish Council strives to be pastoral and prophetic.

Complete versions of our guidelines and bylaws are available on our website <www.sjbc1858.com> in the PPC section. The agendas for and minutes of our monthly PPC meetings are also archived on the website.

SHINING A LIGHT ON OUR MINISTRY LEADERS
For the past few months we’ve met with many of our existing ministry groups to find out more about their roles. Wow! What an eye-opening endeavor. The number of groups in which our parishioners are engaged is amazing and the work they do is far-reaching, greatly needed and deeply appreciated.

In order to bring to light the "good news" about our many ministries, the PPC, together with leaders from the ministry groups, is sponsoring a Ministry Fair on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23. The fair takes place in the Parish Hall from 9 am - 2 pm - food, fun, information, opportunities to volunteer.

We're also gathering more specific information about our ministries through a leadership questionnaire, available in Spanish and English.

And, we're talking and listening to parishioners in a variety of ways to better understand what works well for our parish and what improvements are needed to make our parish even stronger and more vibrant.

WHEN WE MEET
The PPC meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the Rectory Conference Room. (Note: our march 2017 meeting is on the 4th Tuesday, March 28.) If you'd like to join us for a PPC meeting, have a question or wish to suggest an agenda item, please contact Frances Ortiz-Chavez at 707-287-7570 or <fortizchavezstudio104@gmail.com>, or, Lynne Baker at 707-666-1172 or <sjcnapaemcs@gmail.com>.

We'll keep you up to date about the PPC on a monthly basis through the parish website, posters in church, newsletters, bulletin announcements and person-to-person contact.

"Let us allow God to fill our hearts with His goodness and mercy."
~Pope Francis
SUMMARY NOTES HIGHLIGHTS  
FEBRUARY 21, 2017 PPC MEETING

Once approved, formal summary notes (minutes) of PPC meetings are "stored" in the PPC section of the SJC website and are readily accessible. In addition to the formal minutes we will publish a "Highlights" version following each PPC meeting.

COMING TOGETHER
Our meetings are divided into two parts: a Dialogue Section, during which we work on a particular issue or concern for our parish, and, an Administrative Section, during which we hear reports and conduct relatively routine business.

Our current Dialogue focuses on the need for better communication from and to the PPC with the intent of keeping parishioners informed about what's happening in the parish and hearing their concerns and kudos.

THE VITAL FEW
Our attention is directed toward three vital areas

- **Ministry Fair**, April 23, 9 am - 2 pm, in the Parish Hall. This is the first time in several years that we've held such a fair. Jim Asbury, Judy Andrich and Priscilla Silvey, along with leaders from several ministry groups, are planning the event. Jim’s workplan serves as a roadmap for the work of the planning group.

- **Communication from Parishioners to PPC**. John Reynoso, along with Deacon Joel Tapia, Kristy Reynoso and Lynne Baker, is leading the effort to gather information from parishioners about their perceptions of their parish home - what we do well, what we can do better. Questionnaires were distributed to ministry leaders of the many groups that function within the parish. Once we have collected and collated data from questionnaire responses we’ll have more accurate information about the parish organizations and will learn how PPC can support their efforts.

- **Communication from PPC to Parishioners**. We’re in the process of adding PPC-related content to our section of the SJC website, e.g., Bylaws, Guidelines, Summary Notes of our monthly meetings, newsletters, etc. We’re also connecting in person with parishioners to inform them about the functions of the PPC, how they can contact us and who we are. Photos and brief statements from PPC members will appear on the website, PPC information will appear on church bulletin boards, informative newsletters will be published and distributed. We're connecting with the various parish ministries by meeting with leaders and attending regularly scheduled meetings and we, along with the Music Ministry, we will co-sponsor hospitality following the 10 am Masses on March 12 and April 9.

MORE TO COME in the weeks and months ahead ...

On the Administrative side, we heard from Fr. Mora that our new website is coming along nicely and will keep getting better with time.

We heard from Fr. Pat about musician and songwriter **David Kauffman**. Long story short, David is coming to SJC on Tuesday March 21, 7 pm, to present a night of Song and Story for Hope and Healing. His inspiring words and songs will be presented in Spanish and English. The program is free of charge though we will have a free will offering. This is a GREAT program for families to attend together.

We heard from Frances Ortiz-Chavez that she and Lynne Baker attended a recent meeting with community leaders, particular those from the Hispanic community, city officials and Police Chief Steve Potter to discuss immigrant/refugee concerns. Frances also mentioned an upcoming event: Fernando Casanova, Apologetica, August 19 & 20; and the possibility that the theater group associated with Fundacion Heullas, El Salvador, Centroamerica, may be coming to Napa.

We agreed that all formal documents pertinent to the PPC will be archived in Spanish and English on our website. This effort will take a bit of time. Document translation is done for us on a volunteer basis by a few wonderfully skilled translators.

WHEN WE MEET
PPC meets from 7-9 pm on the third Tuesday* of each month in the Rectory Conference Room. Any parishioner who wishes to attend a PPC meeting is welcome to do so. Just give us a call to schedule your attendance. Parishioners are also invited to contact us with questions or concerns they wish to bring to the attention of the PPC. Contact Frances Ortiz-Chavez at 707-287-7570, or, Lynne Baker at 707-666-1172.  
* In March we will meet on the fourth Tuesday, March 28.

STAYING IN TOUCH
We’ll keep you up to date about the PPC on a monthly basis through the parish website, posters in church, newsletters, bulletin announcements and person-to-person contact.