**PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**February 28, 2023**

**Present:** Fr. John, Fr. Christian, Fr. Homero, Van Ziegler, Jason Nord, Maggie Schneider, Luke Messmer, Tim Bell, Dan Fritch, Lynn Scheu, Tracie Ihle, Dave Kramer, Irma Alanis, Tammy Mehringer, Pam Freyberger

**Absent:** None

The 7:00 pm meeting was called to order by Van Ziegler.

**Opening Prayer –** Fr. John led us in prayer.

Jason Nord made a motion to approve the November 2022 Parish Council minutes. Lynn Scheu seconded the motion. All were in favor of approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Welcome Dinner for New Members**
   1. Many Latino’s attending mass are not members of church. Irma has encouraged more to officially become members and is helping with the registration process
   2. Simplified registration form is needed. Fr. Homero to obtain St. Mary’s Huntingburg form.
      1. Possibly give first 15 min of mass to filling out form
   3. Brainstorming on new member welcome: dinner, coffee & conversation
2. **Weddings**
   1. Ad put in bulletin for coordinator
   2. Task list is being created
   3. Several individuals have inquired. Position pays $175
   4. Must have all wedding related guests out of church by 4 PM
3. **Church Update**
   1. Money slot for candles are in discrete spot. Signage to be posted.
   2. Bathroom lights are automatic and shouldn’t be touched or breaker needs to be rest. Looking at a small sign and plastic cover.
   3. Acoustics – continue to need tweaking. Can be done remotely from tech in Louisville.
   4. Hearing impaired system: need to advertise devices are available. Also, need induction hearing aid “how to pair” in large print in pews
   5. Kneelers are fixed!
4. **Lent Update**
   1. Masses – not as much song and music. Goal is to hear more voice to set mood. Hear more prayer and have more silence.
5. **Office & Personnel**
   1. Stacy Helming has filled Joyce’s position effective January 31. Working on record keeping and following up on previously booked weddings.
6. **Guidebook Update**
   1. Printed and shipping mid-March
7. **Flocknote Update**
   1. Mass mailing and sign up in gathering area
   2. Cards in pews and announcement at start of mass to fill out and put in collection
   3. New members automatically get signed up
8. **Golf Scramble Update**
   1. Huntingburg Country Club contacted for shotgun start
   2. Wanting a Sunday
9. **Ministry Fair**
   1. Kundek Hall to have chairs and tables in middle
   2. Purpose of fair: volunteers and education
   3. Coffee and conversation to be added both weekends of fair and will be held after every mass except 6 AM
10. **Parish Google Calendar**
    1. Info sent to Tammy. Office to decide if want to use of not.
11. **Listing of Next 30 Days of Events**
    1. Include commission meeting times for next month – send to parish council secretary to be posted in meeting minutes
    2. Need a parish calendar posted to website. Possibly look at sending all events to Julie Stone to post?
12. **Welcome Bags for New Members**
    1. Current bag items: CD, flyers, history book, key chain, books, pen, and crucifix
    2. Ideal bag discussed by parish council: bible, crucifix, rosary, guidebook, keychain, nice bag, charging device, dedication booklet, flyer “list of us”, and welcome cards
       1. Budget to be set by Dan and Finance Committee
    3. Contacting new members: Father John to help Dave Kramer get a team together to do this

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Staff Meetings**
   1. Need general notes on what changes are going to be made. Father John to send to Van.
   2. No longer locking doors
2. **Children’s Liturgy of The Word**
   1. Possibly pilot at 4:30 PM mass on Saturdays
      1. Looking for volunteers at ministry fair
3. **Wedding Guidelines**
   1. See #2 in old business
4. **Church Website Update**
   1. Website company will do updates for free if < 1 hour/month
   2. New picture needed – Jason to have picture fitted for website and sent to company
   3. Facebook access: Fr. Homero, Pam, Phil Olinger

\*Topics for new business added during meeting:

\* Hymn boards listed in front of church = see if we can get one or 2

**COMMISSION REPORTS:**

**FINANCE:** *Dan Fritch*

* Financial Review (December 2022)
  + Budgeted Income $810,239.99
  + Actual Income $1,164,751.51
  + Variance $354,511.52 \*We took a distribution from the Catholic Foundation of $332,161.00 for the year
  + Budgeted Expenses $869,136.67
  + Actual Expenses $794,169.67
  + Variance $74,967.00
* Sunday Collections YTD
  + January 2022 Sunday Collection YTD 13 collections $722,876.65 -- Weekly average $23,318.67
  + January 2021 Sunday Collection YTD 13 collections $666,865.04 -- Weekly average $21,511.78
* CPC – assessment amount $318,186.00 (No Changes)
  + Pledged Amount $297,106.00 93.3% of goal
  + Cards Returned 806 out of 1646 49% participation
    - Actual shortfall $21,080 – Budgeted shortfall $65,000
* Church Renovation Updates
  + We reviewed the update renovation expenses:

Original Budget $10,000,000

Additional Budget Allocated $ 300,000

Total Renovation Budget $10,300,00

Estimated Renovation Final Expenses $9,941,755

Non-Budget Items Approved

Altar, Ambo, Font $214,550

Security, Hearing Impaired, $203,829

Shrine, extra Audio & Lights

Video Gear $ 31,621

Additional Landscaping $150,000

Total Non-Budgeted Items $600,000

* Capital Campaign Update"Our Time" Capital Campaign (Goal $10,000,000)
  + - Total Pledges $10,023,454(+152,837 interest)
    - Pledge Balances Due $ 748,112.13
* Objective: Address the Holy Trinity support

Our current student enrollment:

98 Students

60 Families (parish registered and tithing)

9 Families (parish registered but have not tithed in over 5 years\*)

23 Families (parish registered but not tithing\*)

5 Families (not parish registered – working on these to become registered)

\* Family could be tithing via cash not in an envelope

2022/2023 Annual Holy Trinity Support $355,516 (average $3,627.71 per student)

2023/2024 Estimated annual Holy Trinity Support $397,806 ($42,290 increase)

We agreed to be increased over time.

We are looking for ways to be better informed on their annual budget and year over year trending

**PARISH SPIRITUAL LIFE:** *Tracie Ihle*

* **March/Lent: Mass in a Month** – There are over 65 people signed up with more signing up each day. Most are attending all 4 sessions and about 8 children signed up for the Lenten activities on March 3rd. We are blessed to have volunteers provide activities and babysitting for the children so that parents can participate in Stations, the meal and talk. The groups that are leading stations are providing the meal for Mass in a Month. Free will offering will cover bread/sandwiches, drinks, supplies.
* **Stations of the Cross will** be held both on Wednesdays at 7PM and Fridays at 6PM. Youth are leading on Wednesdays. Fridays: K of C, Steven Ministries, CRHP team, D of I, St. Annes and Faith Formation will each take a turn.
* **The Wild Goose series, Metanoia**, will be held on Monday afternoons at 1:30PM. There is a group of about 15-2- who usually attend the Monday adult faith formation sessions.
* **The Parish Podcast** is up and running and can be accessed through Facebook and apple podcast app. It is called On the Go at St. Joe. We are working on finding another format to use so people without Apple products can access. This is a work in progress. They are short and hope to keep under 20 minutes.
* **The Confirmation Mass is Tuesday, March 7th** at 6:30PM with 31 students getting confirmed. Holy Family has 7 students. Our formation was combined Holy Family youth and NET held the retreat for them in January.
* **First Communion is the weekend of May 6&7th.**  Families will choose their Mass. There are 52 First Communion students plus two who will also participate in First Communion Masses that are coming in at the Easter Vigil with a total of 54.
* **Easter Vigil** - There are 6 children coming into the church at the Easter Vigil with formation taking place on Wednesday evenings. This is in addition to the 2 adults that Lynn is working with on Sunday mornings.
* **Vacation Bible School is June 19-23** for incoming Kindergarten through 6th grade. The theme is “Marvelous Mystery” to tie in with the Eucharistic Renewal theme. This year we will close the week on Friday morning at Jumping Jasper and will have the facility to ourselves. We will return around 11Am with a closing Mass. On Thursday evening the children will perform a few songs and have a BBQ picnic on the plaza with backyard family games, music, snow cones and popcorn. Holy Family will join us for VBS. The activity bus will be used to pick up children unable to catch a ride.
* **Rock Your Faith for middle school youth is Sunday, June 11th** (Feast of Corpus Christi). We are going to leave early in the morning to go to Mass at the Cathedral Basilica and then head to Our Lady of Snows. Theme is “True Presence” with Jimmy Mitchell as our keynote speaker.
* **The High School youth will be recognized on Saturday, May 20th** at the 4:30 Mass with a meal following. St. Joe will provide the meat and ask families to pitch in a side dish. Those that attend will each receive a bible.
* **The St. Maria Goretti Awards** will be announced at parish council meeting. Their recognition will be at the cathedral on Sunday, March 12th.
* **Boy Scouts will host the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday after the 9AM Mass**. Pam is working with Jim Schoenbachler with this event to provide supplies.
* **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** has been going well with the leaders getting their feet wet. Elly Bell will hopefully participate in a Level 2 training session in Evansville if they get enough to sign up. We are hoping to recruit a few to train in level one at Holy Redeemer parish with the Dominican sisters from Nashville. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is growing in the diocese and this part of the country. If you have not yet seen the space, see Pam for a tour. This is a beautiful program to help evangelize the children at a young age.
* **Deanery High School Senior event** sponsored by the East Deanery PCLs went great with Fr. Tyler Tenbarge as the guest speaker. There were 120 people in attendance. There was a panel discussion for parents and one for students following the dinner and talk.

**EVANGELIZATION & OUTREACH**: *Lynn Scheu*

* Keep track of how many are attending ministry fair
* Divine mercy Sunday is being worked on: 4/16 @ St. Joe’s. First time St. Joe’s is hosting.
* Looking at homelessness next. Transitional units are needed. Crisis Connection has a 3S program for transitional housing issues.
* Trotter House of Dubois County is coming to Jasper.
* St. Vincent De Paul services need to be highlighted. Many don’t know all the resources they offer.

**PARISH COMMUNITY LIFE:**  *Dave Kramer*

* Looking for a new chair for Senior Dinner on September 24
* Possibly invite someone to play music during dinner
* Cancel Coffee & Conversation that will fall on Easter Sunday
* Boy Scouts are hosting an Easter egg hunt after 9 AM mass on Easter Sunday morning
* BOSCO hosting next Coffee & Conversation in May

**LATINO:** *Irma Alanis*

* Creating a group to go evangelize when someone is sick or needs prayer.
* Will have poster at ministry fair to show what they do different.
* Has seen an increase in mass attendance…mass time change has been really good.

**SUCCESS STORIES/OTHER BUSINESS**

* 90 People signed up for mass in a month
* 400 people attended Ash Wednesday 4:30 PM mass
* Very nice appreciation dinner for choir was held
* Wednesday April 12 will have speaker to talk about Divine Mercy Sunday

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Christian led us in prayer.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7:00 pm** in Room 303.

**Submitted by:** Maggie Schneider