**PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**October 23, 2023**

**Present:** Fr. John, Fr. Christian, Maggie Schneider, Jason Messmer, Jason Nord, Richard Kunkel, Tracie Ihle, Lynn Scheu, Christine Brinkman, Sarah Kasprzak, Dan Fritch

**Absent:** Fr. Darnis, Fr. Homero, Pam Freyberger, Tammy Mehringer, Luke Messmer, Irma Alanis

The 7:00 pm meeting was called to order by Jason Nord.

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

Jason Messmer made a motion to approve the August 2023 Parish Council minutes. Richard Kunkel made a second motion. All were in favor of approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Safety & AED Training – Fr. John – Will take place on November 16 @ 6 PM. 7 seats are still open.
2. Storybook of renovation update – Tracie – Bob has started the process and will be in contact with Dan to get some questions answered. Other history of the church books needs to be collected and gone through to ensure we have captured the history of the church in writing.
3. Social media account manager progress – Dan – Working on job description with Fr. John.
4. Men’s organization – Fr. John – Fr. John has talked with Ed and will set a date to meet with him to discuss and possibly join Holy Name into a bigger men’s club.
5. Updates on progress of 3 question response – Fr. John
   1. Integrate communities more
      1. Pupusa fundraiser at the end of the month? – Irma not present to update.
      2. Paula is moving forward with bilingual songs – praise and worship music with bells will be integrated into masses
      3. English and Spanish classes – needing someone to host – looking to have classes/meet ups as conversation meetings
   2. More opportunities/ministries/activities for the elderly – see commission reports – Sarah is doing many activities with her commission to improve this
   3. More visits to the homebound and ensuring they receive Communion if they desire; more homebound awareness – There needs to be a list of homebound and who wishes to be visited. A flock note will be sent to parishioners to update the homebound ministry list.
      1. Feedback on drivers who signed up through ministry fair - 1 person has signed up. Currently 4 people are needing rides. A communication notice will be published in bulletin so if anyone needs a ride to mass, they can call the parish office.
   4. Men’s organization (see #4 above)
   5. Dinners/dances brought back; bus trips – see commission reports
6. Chapel dedication to Mother Théodore Guérin – what needs to be done – Fr. John – The pews have been put in the chapel and it has been cleaned. Stained-glass windows are to be put in and we will have a dedication celebration when all this is completed.
7. Church’s first dedication celebration – Fr. John – Kathy Schneider will be responsible for the hospitality portion of the celebration on Monday, November 20th after mass.
8. Hospitality update for October 28 – Dan – Soup will be ready on Saturday. Currently scheduled as “Soup on the Circle”, however, the weather is looking more like Kundek Hall will be needed. Plans are to serve 100 people. 2 soups will be offered: chili and chicken noodle. Hot dogs, chips, lemonade, iced tea, and water will also be served. Planned to follow 4:30 PM mass.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Stewardship Program – Fr. John – Catholic Stewardship Strategies (Fr. Andrew currently participates in the program) is a program aimed at increasing collection and volunteers in church ministries. It is a 3-year commitment @ $25,000/year. Parishioners will fill out cards and pledge a financial donation and/or to sign up and volunteer in ministries. Feedback in the past has been more financial participation and less volunteer. Fr. John to do more looking into this program.
2. Ministry fair reflections – We need to look into doing a commission of the month with a representative speaking at masses right after homily for 2-3 minutes. Have someone in the back of church for sign-ups with additional commission information. This would heighten awareness of what we offer and give commissions the ability to tell parishioners their “ask”.
   1. Finance – Dan – doing doughnuts and coffee with a scheduled event has increased participation
   2. Evangelization & Outreach – Lynn
   3. Spiritual Life – Tracie – no one came after 6 pm mass
   4. Community Life – Sarah
   5. Latino – Irma – not @ meeting
3. Quiet on Kundek reflection – Jason – Mostly has been positive feedback and only a few small negatives. People have not been understanding what Quiet on Kundek’s purpose is. The purpose has needed to be explained. Fr. Christian wrote a column in the bulletin. Fr. Christian reports he sees more people coming into the church and has testimonies pouring in about experiences praying in the church. He states they have been beautiful at bearing witness to inspire others to pray. Testimonies are being shared on Facebook and in the bulletin.
4. Any additional topics needing to be discussed – Jason
   1. Kyle Woehler is an Eagle Scout wanting to do a project on the church campus. Fr. John has approved the statue.
   2. Tracie is working on guidebook. Needing parishioners to please update their information on file if any has recently changed.
   3. The picture directory is back and undergoing a proofread.

**Commission Updates:** (top points from each commission lasting 5 minutes or less)

Finance – Dan – $44,000 in financial income deficit due to lower weekly collections than budgeted. Next month, we will see an additional $10,000 deficit due to an endowment setup. Building and grounds: the 1st floor floors of the parish center will be replaced in early 2024. The activity center lighting should be updated sometime in December.

Evangelization & Outreach – Lynn – Angel tree is going on with 45 families and 145 kids participating. This is an increase in participants, but a decrease in families compared to last year. RCIA has 7 adults participating. Renee Nord has signed up to help with numerous commission needs. After ministry fair there was 1 person that signed up for driver. An announcement will be put in the bulletin to increase awareness for both drivers and those that need rides. The program to spiritually adopt baby is going on (Irma will talk with Latinos about this program). Currently working on lent speakers to discuss physician assisted suicide and euthanasia.

Spiritual Life – Tracie – On November 1 ther will be an All Saints Day party after mass with saint themed treats and food. Fr. Darnis published an article about Mary and consecration. Book club in a pub went well with about 40 participants. We are selling advent candles in back of church. There are 245 kids in release time, 130 kids on Wednesday evenings, and 11 kids for RCIA.

Community Life – Sarah – Upcoming events: bus trip…25 people signed up and we need 40 people to break even. The bus trip is being opened to other parishes for participants. Coffee & Conversation has been scheduled up to February. On Monday, November 20th we will have our 143rd celebration of the church with an anniversary mass and reception to follow. SOLES for soles will be happening. We are going to get gently used shoes to send to Africa. In February we will have a Valentine’s Day party. Also, planning a casino night. Another trip is being planned for this spring. In the stage of gathering ideas for destination.

Latino – Irma – unable to attend meeting

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

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Fr. John.

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

**Submitted by:** Maggie Schneider