**PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**February 25, 2025**

**Present:** Fr. John, Fr. Christian, Fr. Jaison, Fr. Homero, Jason Nord, Christine Brinkman, Jason Messmer, Richard Kunkel, Tara Dreblow, Michele Schoenbachler, Irma Alanis, Andrew Luke, Jane Fischer, Lynne Bohnert, Deacon Keith

**Absent:** Dan Fritch, Nathan Bradford, Lynn Scheu

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 January 2025 Parish Council minutes. Christine Brinkman made a second motion. All were in favor of approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Guadalupe Statue – Landscaping Around Statue – Fr. John
   1. Fr. John needs to get ahold of Kevin Cox. Maybe a boy scout might want to landscape this area.
2. Job Posting for Organist/Music Ministry Update – Fr. John
   1. Posting Organist/Music Ministry Nationally. Looking at three candidates for this position.
3. CMA Update – Fr. John
   1. This has pretty well closed out for this term. New donation will go for next year’s CMA
4. Need for Bilingual Masses on Feast Days to bring English/Hispanic communities together-Fr John
   1. Feast of St. Joseph (March 19th). Finger Foods/Addl Foods for after the celebration
5. Church Mosaics – Fr John  
    a. Two mosaics are completed & vibrant.

b. The Crown of Mary mosaic will begin around July 7th (scaffolding will go up right before)  
 c. Also looking at additional lighting to get more of the gold reflections

1. St. Meinrad Weekend – Fr Christian…No Add’l info. Nice fundraising weekend for St. Meinrad

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Catherine from Bosco-Future Plans

* Last month-60 youth attended. Normally 20-25 individuals per each Wednesday
* Freshmen class really growing (12 boys attend every week)
* Guest speakers one a month (Feb..Deacon Aaron from Ireland…excellent talk)
* Events…Went skiing in Dearborn County (skiing three hours away). More events being planned
* Mar 21-23 Middle School Camp, Good Friday retreat, Summer programs in June & July (MI)
* Mar 2nd (normally first Sunday of month)..7-8:00 Praise and Worship services
* Biggest Challenge…difficult to merge the older students with the new students

1. Parish Council Members-Open Discussion

* Looking for names of new members by April. Adding three new members to the Parish Council
* Want to add two new Latino members to the Paris Council. Brought on larger discussion/feedback
* Need to bridge two communities (English and Spanish)
* Maybe use “Spanish Mass representatives” instead of Latino. Language barrier is definitely an issue.
* Invite possible candidates to Parish meeting. Irma will be thinking of good candidates as well

3. Parish Survey – 3 Questions from Survey

* 1) What Parish is Doing Well, 2) Needs improved at Parish, 3) What Ministries you would like to be involved in
* Add’l Question…What do you like/enjoy about St. Joe’s Parish (as 4th question)

4. Catholic Jubilee “Pilgrims of Hope”

* Trip to Montreal had 30+ people that came to Pilgrimage Bus Trip (1st meeting)
* Bus Tour to four churches (Vincennes, Washington, Huntingburg and Ferdinand)..April 22 (Tuesday)

1. Upcoming Events / Dates:
   * Ash Wednesday – March 5th (6:00, 8:00, 12:05, 3:30, 5:00 & 6:30 (Spanish)
   * Confirmation – March 13th
   * Feast of St. Joseph – March 19th (Wed evening mass 6:30 pm)
   * Senior Luncheon/Reconciliation – March 27th (11:00-1:30)
   * Palm Sunday – April 13th
   * Chrism Mass at St. Benedict Cathedral (6:30 EST) – April 15th
   * Holy Thursday – Adoration April 17th
   * Good Friday – Spanish (noon), Veneration of the Cross (3:00), Stations of the Cross (6:00) - April 18th
   * Holy Saturday – April 19th (8:30 pm)
   * Easter – April 20th (6:00, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00/noon)

6. Lenten Activities – Fr John  
 -“My Sacrifice And Yours” by Paul Turner  
 -“Lenten Gospel Reflections” by Bishop Robert Barron  
 - Guide Book

-Friday Mass during Lent (6:00 am mass in addition to regular 8:00 am mass)  
-Stations of the Cross (Wednesday & Friday)  
-Faith Formation Presentations   
-Lent Series – Stations, Soup & Speaker (Mar 7, 14, 21, 28 & Apr 4)  
-Lent Reading Group of Dads (7:00am on Thursdays 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 and 4/3)

7. Spring Break (Mar 24-28)…Moving Parish Council Meeting to Tuesday March 18th (Not March 25)

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

Finance – Dan

* Nothing new reported this month

Justice & Charity (formerly Evangelization & Outreach) – Lynn

* Next bingo March (St. Charles)….Legacy in May
* Clothing Closet…Needing Business Casual Clothes for work release individuals (when going to interviews)…for men and women
* Looking for Parish/Outreach (Sat July 19th)…providing VitaMeals (grains/proteins from airtight bags to meal boxes). Working with Courtney Schmidt to coordinate for next step (went to Good Shep. In Evansville [past Saturday] to see how to organize)…$.33/meal. Wants to raise approx. $30,000.
* Jubilee Year of Hope-doing 1-2 Works of Mercy each month.

Evangelization & Catechesis (formerly Spiritual Life) – Andrew/Nathan

* Nothing new reported this month

Community Life – Michele

* Float for St. Patrick’s Day parade in Irelands. Looking for walkers (on Mar 16th..meet @ 12:30)
* New Member Breakfast is being planned for the end of April.
* Planning a Father’s Day breakfast. Men’s Club will be hosting a Mother’s Day breakfast
* Needs additional greeters (only have 4 of them).

Liturgy and prayer – Lynne Bohnert

* Spring Food Driver (May 1st). Need to do twice a year since Food Bank needs addl items
* Easter Vigil…candles are a problem with wax on floors and pews. Consider options since frustrating in taking hours to clean up after Vigil.
* Last Supper on March 21st (with Men’s Club)

Latino – Irma/Fr. Homero

* Retreat will take place in Evansville on March 15th.
* March 8th…fundraiser 8:00am to benefit family (has cancer)-taking Donations. Selling Taco/Tamale
* March 19th…Feast of St. Joseph. Celebration after the feast (incl food)
* Latino Songbooks are missing\*\*

Deacon Keith- Nothing to report at this time.

**CLOSING PRAYER – Fr. Jaison**

MEMBERS: Jason Nord, Jason Messmer, Christine Brinkman, Richard Kunkel, Tara Dreblow, Jane Fischer

COMMISSION CHAIRS: Dan Fritch, Lynn Scheu, Michele Schoenbachler, Andrew Luke, Irma Alanis, Lynne Bohnert

STAFF MEMBERS: Fr. John Brosmer, Fr. Homero Rodriguez, Fr. Christian Raab, Fr. Jaison Kuzhiyil, Pam Freyberger, Tammy Mehringer, Tracie Ihle, Courtney Schmidt, Deacon Keith

**\*\* Tuesday, March 18th @ 7 PM will be the next meeting \*\***