**PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**January 28, 2025**

**Present:** Fr. John, Fr. Homero, Jason Nord, Christine Brinkman, Jason Messmer, Richard Kunkel, Tara Dreblow, Michele Schoenbachler, Lynn Scheu, Irma Alanis, Andrew Luke, Nathan Bradford, Lynne Bohnert, Deacon Keith

**Absent:** Fr. Christian, Fr. Jaison, Jane Fischer, Dan Fritch

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

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

Fr. John made a motion to approve the November 2024 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 (shrubbery around statue)
2. Job Posting for Organist/Music Ministry Update – Fr. John
   1. Posting Organist/Music Ministry Nationally.
   2. Two people didn’t work out (one took a job in Bloomington & another wanted weekends off)
   3. Looking for someone that is over all music for the church (playing, in charge of choirs)
3. CMA Update – Fr. John
   1. Exceeded our $328,186 goal by approximately $28,000 - Participation is around 41%.
   2. Discussed increasing the average suggested amount/goal per family as it’s been $400 the past several years. Fr. John would like around 50% participation for our parish.
4. Need for Bilingual Masses on Feast Days to bring English/Hispanic communities together-Fr John
   1. Feast of St. Joseph (March 19th)
5. Church Mosaics – Fr John  
    a. St. Joseph mosaic is completed & absolutely vibrant

b. Adding gold to the Swiss Emblems upfront (36 of them total)  
 c. Everything is on time within budget. Will need professional cleaning when mosaics are completed

1. Right to Life March - Fr. John/Deacon Keith  
    a. Deacon Keith said 250 individuals from Evansville Diocese attended with 50+ individuals coming   
    from St. Joe’s parish. 3,000+ total attended the march in Indy.
2. Hurricane Victims/Relief Efforts – Fr. John  
    a. We will be going thru Catholic Charities for Hurricane/Fire Relief (collection this weekend at mass).
3. St. Meinrad Weekend – Jan 25/26. Fr Christian will have it in the bulletin this weekend.
4. Chapel dedication to Mother Théodore Guérin – Correction….Seven Sisters were able to attend the December 8th Chapel Dedication along with the reception afterwards.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Parish Council Members – Open Discussion… - Fr John/Jason Nord  
   -Parish Council Election
   * New Members for Parish Council (nominations in July).
   * Starting in April (thru June), bring up names who might fill Parish Council needs
   * Possibly get people to come back onto board/current members find their own replacement
   * Try to get thinking ahead of election time. Time for discernment/reflection

-Parish Survey (looking at doing another Survey)

* + Fr John did wonderful job on previous survey..received great feedback on good & bad

(ex. More info on Haiti parish, not do Baptism during mass, having Senior Dinner/Men’s Club, more children’s activities)

* + Need to find our what we do well and what needs to be improved.
  + Fr Homero brought up about Bingo & how to address things in a broad way (these are recommendations and not guaranteed to be made)

-Items for the Youth of the Parish

* + Nathan brought up…How to do more things for the youth of the parish. Many kids are going to Young Life (non-denominational) & is concerning. How do we compete?
  + Fr John suggested more things for Junior High kids. Tap into kids at Holy Trinity
  + Fr Homero suggested changing name of Bosco (doesn’t have good ring or welcoming name)

1. Catholic Jubilee “Pilgrims of Hope”
   * Fr Christian did a great job with the Catholic Jubilee.
   * Outlined trip to Montreal Canada during Fall Break.
   * Pilgrims of Hope to four local churches (Washington, Vincennes, Ferdinand & Huntingburg) and brochures are in the back of church.
2. Upcoming Events / Dates:
   * Ash Wednesday – March 5th
   * Feast of St. Joseph – March 19th (Wed evening mass 6:30 pm)
   * Easter – April 20th
   * Vacations:
     + Father Jaison – Jan 25th thru Feb. 10th

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

Finance – Dan

* Income is still down but expenses are also down over what is budgeted
* Assessment for CMA was $328,186 and pledges are at $356,098 (+27,912 over)
* Still looking for Music Ministry

Justice & Charity (formerly Evangelization & Outreach) – Lynn

* Next bingo not till March (out at Legacy)
* Looking for Parish/Outreach…providing VitaMeals (grains/proteins from airtight bags to meal boxes). Trying to set date for packing stations. Working with Courtney Schmidt to coordinate for next step (fundraising could be involved)…$70 provides 1000 meals

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

* Evangelization is CORE (encounter Christ and engage w/ community & each other)
* 50+ people for St. Joe’s & 250 from Diocese attended March for Life in Indy
* Reconciliation-53 kids participated this past weekend…nice crowd at mass
* Four parishes get together as a core & bring ideas together…to ger more people involve

Community Life – Michele

* Planning some social and work events for Men’s Club
* Coffee/Conversation is going well. And thirty people attended Movie Night each month
* Reconciliation (Mar 27th) events.
* Strassenfest float that turned into St. Patty’s float (in Ireland) this year…if interested, join in.

Liturgy and prayer – Lynne Bohnert

* St. Nick went over very well (thank you Jason Nord). Looking for gift ideas for next year ($5 each)
* Prayer for St. Mary on blue/white cards
* Penance Service might be a little earlier for Lent this year.
* Consecration twice a year (ending on Mother’s Day one period).

Latino – Irma/Fr. Homero

* Met in December (celebration of the statute & Lady of Guadalupe).
* Conference for Couples…Feb 8 in Dale
* Consecration….33 days of (started first of January). Consecration is a beautiful book according to   
  Fr. Homero.

Deacon Keith- Nothing to report at this time.

**CLOSING PRAYER – Fr. Homero**

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, February 25th @ 7 PM will be the next meeting \*\***