**PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**November 26, 2024**

**Present:** Fr. John, Fr. Christian, Fr. Jaison, Jason Nord, Jason Messmer, Richard Kunkel, Jane Fischer, Tara Dreblow, Michele Schoenbachler, Lynn Scheu, Dan Fritch, Irma Alanis, Andrew Luke

**Absent:** Fr. Homero, Christine Brinkman, Lynne Bohnert

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

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

Lynn Scheu made a motion to approve the October 2024 Parish Council minutes. Jane Fischer made a second motion. All were in favor of approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Chapel dedication to Mother Théodore Guérin – Jane Fischer
   1. Dec 8th (mass @ noon)…Sisters cannot make it the dedication due to age. Reception afterwards
2. Guadalupe Statue Fundraiser – Fr. John
   1. Sun Nov. 3rd Statue was revealed. Statue will have anchors for support
   2. Kyle/Hispanic Community rocked & put roses around.
   3. Blessing on Dec. 9th (Immaculate Conception)
3. Job Posting for Organist/Music Ministry Update – Fr. John
   1. Two/Three organists have been interviewed (going to review music)
   2. Hired an individual to assist w/ Hispanic Community (Stewardship as well).. She is bilingual
4. Chair lift quote to choir loft – Fr. John
   1. Battery Life not strong enough for # of individuals we need. Add’l meeting Dec 11 or 12th to discuss
5. Steak Night…Fr John
   1. Strong Auctioneer with Dan Fritch. Raised $1500 on desserts alone. Dan suggested “Name Tags”
   2. Men’s Club netted approx. $5200 for first attempt. Very entertaining evening!
6. CMA Update – Fr. John/Dan
   1. Exceeded our $328,186 goal by approximately $6,000 - Participation is lower than 2023 & currently stands at 37.3%. Father John would like this around 50% for our parish.
7. Need for Bilingual Masses on Feast Days to bring English/Hispanic communities together-Fr John
   1. Looking at doing more with Hispanic community, possibly having a bilingual mass on Sat night

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Church Mosaics…Update - Fr John
   * Starting with Joseph mosaics on Jan 6 (take approximate 10 days). The Center mosaic will be 2nd and take 4-6 weeks starting (Jan 15th area) with Mary mosaic being last starting July 2nd and also taking 4-6 weeks.
   * Looking at signing contracts.
   * Dan suggested looking for drapery to cover the scaffolding while mosaics are being repaired
2. Parish Council Members-Open Discussion
   * Irma wanted clarification for the Latino Commission since the Hispanic Community typically donates 100% of food/drink items that they sell or provide at church functions. This was mainly for the upcoming Dec 12th event (Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe). Fr. John mentioned this committee would just need to provide receipts to get reimbursed for bills. Dan also mentioned they could increase budget for Latino Commission if necessary.
3. Christmas Party…Fr. John  
    -Thursday (Dec 26th @ 5:00) for Parish Council, Office Staff & people who help out at St. Joseph a lot
4. Back to Church/Gathering Area for Kids-Fr. John  
    -Someone brought up to Parish Council members about kids being disruptive in church.  
    -Father John made announcements & drove home the point back of church is available for this reason  
    -Dan thought the church had cards that could be set in pews to address this. And Fr Christian thought   
    an announcement at the end of mass would benefit families arriving late to church as well>
5. Right to Life March-Fr. John   
    -Andrew stated 80 kids show some interest of going, but they were hoping at least 50 would attend.  
    -Lynn mentioned carpool for adults would be available & gave a quick breakdown on schedule (Jan 22)
6. Hurricane Victims/Relief Efforts -Fr. John  
    -A group for each parish would work together to coordinate efforts to assist in relief efforts
7. St. Meinrad Weekend- Fr. Christian   
    -Jan 25th & 26th
8. Catholic Jubilee “Pilgrims of Hope” occurs every 25 years (2025)-Fr Christian  
    -Andrew brought up the possibility of doing a 2 or 3 day pilgrimage to Montreal Canada (St. Joseph)  
    -Fr. Christian mentioned this is a “Time of Forgiveness” and was looking at doing something at the   
    beginning of the year to alert people of this once every 25 year celebration in the Catholic church
9. The Three Ordinary Voices of God by Matthew Kelly – Fr. John  
    -Book by Matthew Kelly to be shared with families as a Christmas gift
10. Upcoming Events / Dates:
    * Thanksgiving Meal – November 28th
    * Blessing/Dedication of Chapel (Mother Theodore Guerin) – Dec 8th (noon)
    * Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Dec 8th transferred to:
      + December 9th – Holy Day of obligation
    * Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe - December 12th  (mass-6:30)
    * Penance Services at St. Joe’s – December 18th
    * Evansville Philharmonic at St. Joseph Church - December 21st (Sat) @ 7:00 pm
    * Vacations:
      + Father Christian – January 2nd – 9th

11. Christmas/New Year’s Mass Schedules (as follows)

* + Christmas Mass Schedule  
     Christmas Eve: 4:00 (English), 6:30 (Spanish)  
     Christmas Day: Midnight/12:00a.m., 6:00, 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 (all English)

New Year’s Mass Schedule:  
 New Year’s Eve: 4:00 (English), 6:30 (Spanish)  
 New Year’s Day: 6:00, 8:00 and 10:00 (all English)

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

Finance – Dan

* Income is still down but expenses are also down from the beginning of this fiscal cycle.
* One room at Rectory will is completed and upstairs room should be completed by the end of 2024 (possibly where Father Jaison will be).
* Dan recognized Fr John’s effort to reach the CMA goal two years in a row…used to be real struggle
* Going to meet every other month (Skipping Dec)

Justice & Charity (formerly Evangelization & Outreach) – Lynn

* Angel Trees update…77 families signed up
* Thanksgiving Day dinner (2000 meals planned @ St. Joe’s & St. Mary’s in Huntingburg). Currently have over 250 pies and 800 lbs of turkey have been donated (Mary Schepers donated 100 pies)
* Cathedral Health Bingo was well attendant
* March for Life (Jan 22) Carpool for adults will be available
  + 9:00-11:00 is the youth rally, 1:30 is the Big March
  + 11:30 am Mass for Life with the Bishops of Indiana

Evangelization & Catechesis (formerly Spiritual Life) – Andrew

* Catholic Jubilee-“Pilgrim of Hope”..possible trip up to Montreal Canada to visit St Joseph’s of Mount Royal
* Catechism 101 has gone very well (well attended every session)…going to take break till Jan ‘25

Community Life – Michele

* Bus trip to Louisville…30-35 individuals went on the trip in October (update)
* Planning another trip in Spring to tie in with Pilgrimage of Hope
* Nov had another movie night (two Charlie Brown movies) with popcorn/drinks. Well attended
* Jan 3rd (movie-the Lion King). Encouraged to bring own blanket.

Liturgy and prayer – Lynn Bohnert

* Had Memorial Day Mass with reception on Nov 3. Fairly good turnout
* November 20 – 144th Mass of St. Joseph Church
* Starting Nov 16-17 weekend mass and continuing thru Nov 23-24 masses collecting donations for Food Bank (received 3000 lbs of food in 2023)
* December 8th – Dedication of St. Mother Guerin Chapel
* December 9th (not 8th) will be Holy Day of Obligation…Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Latino – Irma/Fr. Homero

* Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec 12th)…Hoping for a really good turnout.
* Trying to invite more people to com in like Mary & Joseph going door to door looking for a room. They have 9 people right now and growing.
* Thanked Fr. Christian for learning to speak Spanish. Complimented Father how impressed the Hispanic Community was with his words during Spanish mass the previous weekend.

**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

**\*\* Tuesday, January 28th @ 7 PM will be the next meeting \*\***