**PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**September 26, 2023**

**Present:** Fr. John, Fr. Christian, Fr. Darnis, Maggie Schneider, Jason Messmer, Luke Messmer, Jason Nord, Richard Kunkel, Irma Alanis, Tracie Ihle, Lynn Scheu

**Absent:** Dan Fritch, Pam Freyberger, Fr. Homero, Tammy Mehringer, Christine Brinkman, Sarah Kasprzak

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

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

Richard Kunkel took the place of Tim Bell after his resignation. All welcomed Richard.

Jason Messmer made a motion to approve the August 2023 Parish Council minutes. Fr. John seconded the motion. All were in favor of approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Safety & AED Training – Fr. John
   1. We are still waiting on hospital
   2. Panic button update – right in middle of alter under lip that alarms police immediately if something is concerning. Will be putting one in usher closet.
2. Storybook of renovation update – Tracie – No updates at this time.
3. Social media account manager progress – Dan (not present so Fr. John discussed this) – Working on job description for job to be to be more than social media. Would love to have someone with marketing background and be bilingual.
4. Men’s organization – Fr. John – It was determined we do not need 2 clubs.
   1. Will need to coordinate with Holy Name Society.
   2. Fr. John is gathering details from other parishes.
5. Thoughts on the return of 5-minute commission updates – Jason Nord – all in favor of returning updates to meeting
6. Updates on progress of 3 question response – Fr. John
   1. Integrate communities more – now have improved bilingual signage & missalettes
      1. Tuesday evening masses will be Spanish starting in November
      2. Have pupusa fundraiser for Guadalupe
      3. Talked with Paula to get bilingual songs into their rotation. Have English classes.
   2. More opportunities/ministries/activities for the elderly – senior citizen dinner went well
      1. There is a bus trip planned for November
      2. Considering a Valentines (anniversary) mass and gathering
   3. More visits to the homebound and ensuring they receive Communion if they desire; more homebound awareness – get more people out to visit (Rose has a list)
      1. Need a system for rides to mass (Lynn to take this into action).
   4. Men’s organization (see #4 above)
   5. Dinners/dances brought back; bus trips – see “B”

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. What is your vision of parish council – Jason Nord – We need to support our commissions more and learn what is up and coming, what they need help with, and how can we support them
   1. Commission will get 5 minutes for commission report going forward
   2. If there is a discussion topic from a commission, then the lead needs to put it on the agenda for a longer discussion \*\*Send out mission, vision, and goals\*\*
2. What is our mission of parish council – Jason Nord – relates back to #1
3. Dedicating an area to be named in honor of Mother Théodore Guérin – Fr. John – She was the founder of the school therefore; we would like to have a designated area dedicated to her. Patroness of Chapel in Parish Center. All were in favor. Fr. John approves.
4. Church’s first dedication November 1880 – Fr. John – November 20, 1880 – Coordinate with Kathy and Sarah for reception after special mass
5. Hospitality night hosted by finance commission – Hot dogs, chili, and chicken noodle soup on Plaza weather permitting after 4:30 mass on October 28

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

**Finance:** *Dan Fritch* –

**Parish Spiritual Life:** *Tracie Ihle* – Attended:Tracie Ihle, Pam Freyberger, Nathan Bradford, Lynn Scheu, Elly bell, Michelle Blalock

**Upcoming Ministry Fair** – 4 Posters: Spiritual Life, Faith Formation, CGS, & upcoming formation opportunities. Will also help folks sign up for formed and encourage families to use for their children.

**Oct 17: Book Club in a Pub with Fr. Christian**. Location: Oink Inc Smokehouse (Restaurant open for this private event, anyone can attend, will learn even if didn’t read the book, food beverages available for purchase), Doors open 6:15, Discussion 7PM.

**Oct. 29: What’s the big deal about Mary?** 4:30PM – Fr. Darnis

**Nov. 1: All Saints party on the plaza**. Mass 6PM – kids can come to Mass dressed as saints. 7PM Meg Hunter Kilmer talk on Saints, 7:30PM Hotdogs, chips, games, and Trunk or Treat idea with treats that connect with saints, made in to-go packages, for those who need to leave after the Saints talk. Example: St. Lawrence hotdogs (with grill marks), eyeball chocolate for Saint Lucy, rose shaped candy for St. Therese of Lisieux, working out details.

**Nov 2: Working on details with Fr. Homero**, Andrew and Irma meeting with him today. May have a friendly Ofrenda altar and activities.

The first weekend of December sell Advent Candles and wreaths in the back of church as people leave Mass can pick theirs up and provide an Advent package for kids to take.

Lynn Scheu explained Friday Lent series. See Evangelization and Outreach notes for details

**Update on Faith Formation**

* Released Time Heroes of Faith – picked up a few new bus drivers. Could still use one or two more. Have over 240 students K-5.
* CLOW begins Oct 1 for First grade and under. Children will hear one or more readings from scripture (always including the Gospel), sing songs, and have an age-appropriate activity to help them understand the message. The children will be dismissed after the opening prayer and Gloria to the Parish Center Chapel. There will be two trained leaders helping each week who will walk the children from Church to the Parish Center Chapel.  The children will return to the church during the presentation of the gifts so they can celebrate together in the liturgy of the Eucharist. Asking parents to have your children use the restroom before Mass. Parents are also welcome to join if your child will be more comfortable with you present.
* Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Offering two sessions on Tuesdays and both classes are full.
* Middle & High School Formation – over 135 students and growing. High School has several breakout sessions then ends with small groups. A lot of new young adults are involved as mentors for the youth.

**Seminarians from St. Meinrad** helping on Wednesdays: Clint Johnson (Diocese of Evansville) and Luan Tran (Diocese of Vermont)

Next meeting November 27th 7:15PM

BOSCO: September

- High school youth night kicked off with 26 youth in attendance. We discussed the importance of the mass and played mass themed trivia. It is great to see so many freshmen as well as our Hispanic community joining in at Bosco.

- 21 middle school students from Holy Trinity and JMS enjoyed their first Jr. Bosco. We also talked about the mass, played lots of games and had a campfire with s'mores.

- The Bosco Youth Core Team had a shift in leadership after 8 seniors graduated. The new seniors have stepped into their role and set a goal for this year of structuring and planning Bosco events.

- Net has been with us for just over a week now. They are getting aquatinted with the youth and already meeting for one-on-one discipleship. They are also assisting with small group discussion at religion and youth night. Once they have built up more stats we will share those numbers with the parishes.

**Parish Community Life:** *Sarah Kasprzak* – Did not have a September meeting

## **Evangelization & Outreach:** *Lynn Scheu* – **Attended:** Pam Freyberger, Beth Riffel, Jason Messmer, Fr. Christian Raab,

## Opening Prayer – Hail Mary prayed together

## Meeting New Business

* Ministry Fair – brochure/Poster
  + Covering the booth – Tim 6am, Beth 7:30, Jason 9am, Fr. Christian 6pm, need to find volunteer for Saturday the 7th.
  + Add Beth’s name to our team list (done)
  + Ice cream or cookies at 4:30pm and 6pm masses – ask parish council

## Marketing Lenten Talks – Word of mouth, Catholic radio, electronic sign, bulletin, St. Joe on the Go, promoted in young adult group, what is the messaging?

## **E&O Goal: Achieve a Culture of Evangelization**

## **Promote and Develop spirituality and integrate evangelization in the workplace including the St. Joseph clergy, leaders and staff**

## No actions at this time.

## **Foster an even deeper sense of prayer among our Catholic people**

* Adoration under the stars - on hold for now
* Eucharistic renewal – videos send 1 continually/month – *Fr. Christian will filter the videos,*

## 1st video he is sending from Bosco If you find ideas, send them to Fr. Christian.

## **Foster a sense of discipleship among Catholic adults and children**

## Parish monthly prayer partner – month 3 in process

* Coffee & Conversation E&O to host Sept 10 7:30 & 9:00. - Complete
* Quiet on Kundek - get yard signs out.
* Theology on Tap starts in October. All speakers are confirmed.

**Respect Life: Subcommittee**

* Plan for spiritual adoption – Will start in October during Respect Life month. Lynn presented idea that Fr. Christian is thinking about. Having a baby cradle in front of Mary. Have commitment papers in the pews and ask the parishioners to fill out and drop in cradle committing to pray for baby until July. Each month there will be an update in the bulletin for the baby. Baby models will be out. Large poster set in the back of church in greeting area. Baby cradle can be moved to back of church to make room for Latino celebration last week of October. Would like to bring up the first week of each month when we release the update for the baby’s growth as a reminder to be praying for your spiritually adopted baby.
* Stations of the Cross suggestions – CHRP, DofI, St. Annes, Spiritual Life (Catechists), Evangelization & Outreach – ask Parish Life if they will do soup.
* Euthanasia & physician assisted suicide planned talks

#1 Big Picture – Euthanasia / Physician assisted suicide Vs Catholic Dignity of Life Fr. Shenan J Bouquet (Humal Life International) author of Scapegoating of the Elderly. Awaiting confirmation from him.

#2 Legal/political advocacy – ICC Alexander Mingus confirmed as speaker

#3 Theology of Suffering – Dr. Schemenauer confirmed as speaker

#4 Accompaniment/Pastoral care/Hospice – ask Little Sisters of the Poor confirmed as speaker

#5 Advanced Directives/Navigating from a Catholic perspective – ask Dr. Munning

This will be a Lenten Series 5 Fridays during lent following Stations of the Cross at 6pm & soup dinner planned by Parish Life committee.

      Feb 14 Ash Wednesday – Thur. March 28, 2024

* Trotter house – continue promotion for volunteers – need people in child care
* Human Trafficking prevention and recovery – future topic

## **Awaken, equip and empower our active Catholic members to exercise their baptismal call to evangelize**

## Trip planning – November going to Mr. Theodore Guerin & Holocaust museum in Terra Haute Monday Nov 13.

* Corpus Christi procession – 2024 planning – agree to make it multi-parish but still hold it at St. Joseph. Rethink the procession path.
* Adult faith formation – Quarterly Book Club in a Pub. Fr. Christian will lead. The first book will be Bishop Robert Barren’s This is My Body (Oct 17), then Song for Nagasaki, Fr. Ed and Into the Deep
* 2 Class series called Male & Female in Scripture & Science in November
* Presentation on Sacred art during Lent – Fr. Christian ask contact. Do this is February or April?

## **Corporal Works of Mercy**

## Cathedral Bingo 10/9. Sent text asking if Good Samaritan should be Nov 27 or Dec 11. December tends to be too busy.

## DCCM – Reopened 9/11. Meals are provided on Mondays.

* Helping Hands ministry - rescheduling
* Angel Tree planning starting, Trees up 1st weekend in Nov 4-5th. Lynn confirm. Distribution day Dec 9 Saturday morning. Will request gifts to be unwrapped. This year distribution will be from lobby of parish center

**Upcoming Events list:**

**Bingo at Cathedral 10/9**

**Evangelization and Outreach mtg 10/19/2023 5:30pm**

**Theology on Tap Oct**

## Next meeting: 9/21, 5:30pm room 306

**Latino:** *Irma Alanis* - meetings are held every 3rd Sunday of the month. With questions contact Irma @ irmaalanis\_8@hotmail.com

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

The next meeting will be **Monday, October 23, 2023 at 7:00 pm** in Room 303.

**Submitted by:** Maggie Schneider