

Pastoral Council Minutes October 11, 2022

Members Present: Michelle Greco (Chairperson - At Large), Sandy Schuller (Finance Commission), Jackie Aldrich (At Large), Fr. Ed Howe, CR (parochial Vicar), Jonah Tran (Education - Youth), Nancy Balogh (Education Commission – School), Fr. Norbert Raszeja, CR (Pastor), Don Cavalli (At Large), and Sue Gosewehr (Recorder)

Members Not Present: Mark Bularzik (Vice-Chairperson - At Large), Chris Hannigan-Wiehn (Worship Commission), Dave Jandris (At Large), Mike Hillebrand (At Large), Beth Cartner (Education Commission – Religious Education), as well as a Representative from Education (Religious Formation) and Service/Outreach Commissions

The meeting opened with prayer thanks to Mark B

BUSINESS ITEMS

Minutes of the September 13, 2022 Meeting were approved as written (Jackie A-1st, Michelle G-2nd)

Commission Highlights – Please upload to drive before meeting – provide alternates to attend meeting if representative is not able to attend

- Worship Commission – Chris H-W – Report available on Drive
 - Altar Servers – Jackie Aldrich
 - Getting newly trained altar servers on the schedule has been a challenge
 - Adult Altar Servers or one of the Eucharistic Ministers as Altar Server – not necessary unless trained
 - Adult Altar Server training OK
 - Challenge: families not attending Mass
 - Training Documents being used for Altar Servers will be sent to Chris Hannigan-Wiehn
 - Need to get word out to parish and religious education about Altar Server Training – Bulletin, Announcement, Facebook, Flocknote
 - Michelle will contact Chris H-W
 - Jonah will contact Youth Group
- Religious Formation – School – Nancy B – Report available on Drive
 - Enrollment – 224
 - 7th Grade has a waiting list
 - St. Dominic students learning St. Scholastica routine
 - Challenge will be retaining new students
 - Financial climate may affect enrollment
- Religious Formation – Youth Ministry – Jonah T
 - Haunted Corn Maze & Moonlight Hayride at Heaps Farm in Minooka October 9 – 99 teens and 13 adults
 - Preparing for Fall Retreat October 22-23 at Our Lady of the Angels Retreat Center in Lemont. 30 kids signed up. Theme is Jesus Calls Us
 - Holy Fire for Middle School October 15

- Purified for Middle and High School – Jason Evert at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Darien October 23. Part of Fall Retreat
- Trivia Night Fundraiser November 5 from 5:30 to 9 pm. Adults only. Benefit World Youth Day, Mission Trip, and Steubenville
- Confirmation October 26 with Bishop Conlon
- Helping with St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive October 29 & 30
- Will help with Christmas Basket Distribution
- Chicago Street Ministry Experience December 17
- Next summer:
 - Mission Trip with Jerusalem Farm in Kansas City June 18-24
 - Steubenville Early July
 - World Youth Day to Paris, Lourdes, Fatima, and Lisbon with St. Joseph in Downers Grove July 24-August 7. 11 people.
- Religious Formation – RE – Beth Cartner –no report
- Administration/Finance – Sandy Schuller
 - Parishioner offered to match funds for Capital Campaign
 - Money is available – key is asking for it
 - Finance Council needs to get a grasp of the full financial picture of the parish before looking at a Capital Campaign
 - Parish is not in financial trouble
 - Collections everywhere have gone down
- Deanery Report – Jackie Aldrich
 - Jackie A will be attending Deanery Meeting on Thursday, October 13

Council Focus – Provided on agenda

- Parish Census Status – Marisa Trevino
 - Information from Marisa T provided on Agenda
 - Discussion regarding database
 - Now in purging stage
 - Census is fluid
 - Accurate database – with 80% confidence
 - E-mail addresses from Eventbrite in database
 - Request changes from families
 - “Please let us know...” card included in Easter and Christmas mailings
- Update Constitution tabled until next meeting
- Commission Reports – please make sure they are uploaded onto the Shared Drive
- Commissions within the Parish tabled until next meeting
- Communication/Awareness tabled until next meeting
- Parish Fundraiser
 - Chili Cook-off will come back. Nancy B will help. Mark H will be asked if he is willing to help.
 - Donut Sundays replace Hospitality
- Priesthood Sunday – September 24 & 25

- Notes from parishioners were nice – from the heart – touching
- Banner from school was nice
- Prayer was nice
- Dinner to celebrate Fr. Norbert’s birthday at Clara’s at 7 pm on Tuesday, November 8 in place of Parish Pastoral Council Meeting. Members pay for their dinner, and split bill of priests
- Fr. Norbert’s comments
 - Deacons scarce
 - Rick works as hospital in Indiana
 - Tom home with Desiree
 - Deacon Bob Wallace from St. Dominic’s being reassigned here
 - Bishop Hicks will celebrate Mass Saturday, January 28 – will visit with clergy – needs to spend more time with priests
 - Diocesan employment down
 - Bishops letter – examining parishes – DuPage County OK
 - ½ as many priests in diocese
 - Parishes being combined
 - Don C– with our numbers dwindling, are we in trouble:
 - Fr. Ed – Parish subsidy to school needs to be affordable to parish, ability to collect tuition. Many churches in this area – shared pastors will become a reality
- Agenda Items for next meeting: Update Constitution, Commissions within the Parish, Communications/Awareness Committee, and Parish Fundraiser on agenda for next meeting
 - Please contact Fr. Norbert or Michelle G to add items to next month’s agenda

The meeting closed with Prayer thanks to Jackie A

December Meeting - Opening Prayer – Nancy B

Closing Prayer – Don C

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 8 at 7 pm at Clara’s in celebration of Fr. Norbert’s birthday

Please upload written reports into the shared drive, monthly meeting as soon as possible