

## Pastoral Council Minutes September 10, 2024

Members Present: Roy Peterson (At Large), Meng Yambao (At Large), Pat O'Donnell (At Large), Dave Jandris (Vice-Chairperson - At Large), Jerry Munley (Worship Commission), Lynda Wagner (At Large – Deanery Rep), Dawn Kunz (Chairperson - At Large), Marlene Clark (Parish Life Commission), Fr. Mark Cote (Pastor), Ellie Tran (Youth Ministry), Kim Starr (Education Commission – School), and Sue Gosewehr (Recorder)

Members Not Present: Deacon Bob

Guests: Chris Hannigan-Wiehn and Marilyn Ristic – Parish Picnic

Representatives needed from Education Commission (Religious Education), Service/Outreach Commission, and Finance Commission

### **The meeting opened with Eucharistic Revival Prayer and Mission Statement**

- Fr. Mark's Comments
  - Change in structure/function of Parish Pastoral Council
    - Council is advisory to pastor
    - Narrow topics to what pastor needs advice on
    - Move away from reports
    - E-mail reports or publish on shared google drive – not read during meeting
    - Present particular topics needing discussion
    - Structure of meetings as a whole – move to different model in the future
      - Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council will meet every other month, alternating
      - Worship Commission – monthly
      - School Board – monthly
      - Youth Ministry – weekly to monthly
      - Religious Education – no board established
      - Adult Faith Formation – no board established
      - Finance Council – in the process of rebuilding
      - Deanery – meets 2 to 3 times per year
        - Opening with Mass to Montini
      - Service – ZOOM once a month
      - Parish Life – Communication is through e-mail monthly
        - Knights of Columbus – monthly
        - Council of Catholic Women - monthly
    - Monthly topics will vary
    - Emergency meeting may be called (includes summer months)
    - Next meeting November 12
    - December may be social event with Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council
  - Minor changes to worship space planned for next summer
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Class Relic of St. Scholastica coming from Germany
      - Public presentation in February on Feast Day

- July weekend – placed in permanent location in what is now tabernacle room
- Tabernacle moved into sanctuary behind altar
- Fr. Dindo painting portrait of St. Scholastica
- Possibility of acquiring additional relic shared
- Stations of the Cross moved to journey around church
  - Shadow boxes made with numbering
- Our Lady of Guadalupe picture from chapel moved to area where credence table is
  - Has official signature of bishop
  - Possible – electronic candle set
- Long term – re-build baptismal font
- Complete affordable things for next summer
- Celebration of St. Scholastica Relic – around St. Benedict feast day
  - Abbot Austin invited to celebrate mass
  - All Benedictines invited to celebrate
  - Fr. Dindo invited to concelebrate
- Chris – timing good to celebrate with aging Benedictines
- Working on beautifying campus
  - Front office, sacristy, welcome desk, meeting rooms
  - Want areas to look welcoming
  - Be a welcoming parish
- Christ the Servant – restructuring
  - Process this year – possibilities
    - Close
    - Keep open
    - Turn into Mission Church
  - If closed
    - We need to be welcoming
    - Information will be shared late January to late February
    - People will come to visit/check us out
    - Need to form welcoming committee, combine with one already established
      - November timeline
      - Quietly and informally form committee
      - Stand back, pray for parishioners, be ready to reach out
    - May need to welcome new members from Christ the Servant into leadership roles
    - Social Justice important
    - Knights of Columbus already combined
    - Our Lady of Peace in Darien will also be accepting members
    - Parishioners will need to resign up here as members
      - Possibly increase Religious Education by 100
      - 700-800 families
- History of churches built in Bishop Imesch’s time – Christ the Servant being one of them

- Desire for school – become regional school like All Saints
  - St. Scholastica not on restructuring list because school is strategically placed – important agenda item
- Fr. Mark will bring ideas/agenda items to council for suggestions/support
  - Look for guidance/approval from council
- Procedure involved in decision making process up to closing parish explained
- Discussion regarding goals of parish
  - Bring back families
  - Revitalize attendance
  - 75% have come ack since COVID
  - Parents not bringing children to church
  - Adult Faith Formation
  - Convince families participation in religion is important to their lives
  - Children’s Masses/Choirs, Youth Masses – possible monthly, alternating between school and religious education
  - Youth Participation better here than at Fr. Mark’s last two parishes, especially Youth Group
- November 12 meeting
  - Contact Dawn with agenda items
  - Business items included
  - No verbal reports unless necessary
- Parish Picnic Discussion
  - Comments – some would like to see picnic return to off-site
  - Wee written report on shared drive
- Welcome Committee
  - Looking for new members
  - Sign up new members and make changes to existing members information
  - Information in bulletin to contact Marisa with changes to membership/address/phone number/e-mail
- Council of Catholic Women willing to help parish in any way
- Encuentro meeting tomorrow
- Guest priest this evening – Fr. Grandon
- Hospitality returning in October – brining back homemade baked goods
- Suggested AED/CPR training for ministers
  - Suggestion will be brought to staff meeting

**The meeting closed with prayer**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 12 at 7 pm in Room 112

March Meeting - Opening Prayer – Eucharistic Revival Prayer

Closing Prayer – Roy P

**Please upload written reports from monthly meetings into the shared drive as soon as possible**