

St. Francis of Assisi-Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting – March 20, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:10 by Jeff Chan

Attendance: Fr. Shoby Chettiyath, Paul Durham, Glenda Griest, Chris Johnmeyer, Seth Hampel, John Walraven, Cheryl Coffelt, Clark Parmley, Jeff Chan, and Linda Howard

Ex-officio Attendance: Deacon Gary Steffes, Julie Clarke

Opening Prayer: Cheryl Coffelt

Question of the Week: Name a recent suffering (dying) that brought growth and new life for you? Like the passage: Unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat, but if it dies it produces much fruit. We discussed this among ourselves and shared experiences.

Minutes of meeting February 21, 2024 were reviewed and approved

Old Business

* Church Expansion/Capital Campaign update: \$1.8 million pledged (84%) of the \$2.2 million goal. 93% of 100 families are contributing, which leaves only 7 as a NO. Before we can start building we need the total amount of \$2.2 million pledged and half of that in cash. The building committee will start meeting after Easter. It was brought to the attention of the building committee about acoustics for the choir. This will be addressed when building gets to that point.

* Eucharistic Revival at St. Francis of Assisi: Adoration is ongoing, good attendance. Eucharistic Congress in July; there are 2 parishioners going currently. A question was brought up on access to materials for those going and to be able to bring material back. Also, will there be any live stream? Deacon Gary and Jennifer Chan will look into this.

* Update from ad hoc nominating for March 2024 PPC elections: We have 5 candidates for this month's election. 3 will be elected/2 appointed. We took a vote on 3-year terms or return to 2-year terms. 2-year terms were recommended and seconded. Father Shoby accepted the recommendation. Elections will be held weekend of March 23-24. Clark Parmley and Glenda Griest will count ballots on Sunday. Father and Jeff Chan will reach out and invite those who will be on council to our meetings. Elections for new officers will be at the close of this term.

* Retreat Planning: Deacon Gary is not getting any return calls from the Diocese of Wichita. Father will try and see if he can get an answer.

New Business

* Round Table: Jeff Chan brought up that another church has posters peppered throughout town advertising their church. How do we get our name out there? We have 6-7% of the population of Christian County. We need to advertise Vacation Bible school as soon as we have dates and times finalized.

Pastoral Plan Reports

* Prayer, Sacraments & The Eucharist: Recently added 4 servers for a total of 18. Volunteers are still needed for Sacristan/Facilitator, also Children's Liturgy. The little book program continues to be popular – Easter books will be distributed during Easter weekend. Currently assigning lay volunteers to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Communion.

* Total Stewardship: Welcome dinner will be March 24th at 5 p.m. We currently have 64 attending. Evening of Gratitude is scheduled for April 19th. Invitations will go out March 22. All council members are asked to provide appetizers for the social from 6-6:30.

* Youth: Jensen Iiams has scheduled a blanket making evening on March 23rd. A game night is scheduled for April 27th. Parental support for the ongoing formation of their children, especially Jr. High School and High School, is needed. We need someone to promote and organize parish participation in youth retreats.

* Community Outreach/Service: We need a facilitator to commit to St. Francis of Assisi Cares Facebook page. Brings attention to Parish and community needs.

* Welcoming Parishioners: Cheryl Coffelt has identified 7 volunteers to help with St. Francis Friends.

* Evangelizing/"Finding new Parishioners": More than 50 parishioners are participating in Jesus and the Eucharist. 7 individuals will be receiving all three initiation sacraments – Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, and 2 candidates receiving Confirmation and the Eucharist. Still looking for a coordinator for receptions and Penance dinners.

***Suggestions made: Put needs in the bulletin. Have a separate board looking for volunteers.

Pastor's Comments

9 people joining our Parish on Holy Saturday. Completion of Capital Campaign is May 4th and 5th. First Communion is May 5th. Diocesan Development Fund (DDF) will be May 11th and 12th. Communal Penance will be March 21st.

Closing Prayer: Cheryl Coffelt

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 p.m.

Dates to Remember:

4/6 Saturday evening after Mass Fellowship and Game Night

4/11-14 Cursillo Women's Weekend

4/13 Jefferson City Stewardship Conference

4/17 Parish Pastoral Council, 7:00 p.m.

4/19 Evening of Gratitude, 6:00 p.m.

4/27 Youth game night

4/28 Recognition of High School Seniors

5/5 First Communion