

St. Francis of Assisi-Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting – May 15, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Jeff Chan

Attendance: Fr. Shoby Chettiyath, Glenda Griest, Cheryl Coffelt, Linda Howard, John Walraven and Jeff Chan. **New Members:** Bob Baker, Trevor Chan and Tracy King

Ex-officio Attendance: Deacon Gary Steffes, Julie Clarke

Excused Absence: Chris Johnmeyer, Paul Durham, Seth Hampel and Clark Parmley

Opening Prayer: Glenda Griest

Question of the Week: When has the Holy Spirit given you the strength to act with courage? Members shared how sometimes you don't know what to say but the right words come out. Asking for guidance in dealing with different situations. There are multiple gifts that the Spirit can bring and often in retrospect the Spirit was there.

Minutes of April 17, 2024 meeting were reviewed with one correction and then they were approved. Corrected minutes will be sent out

Old Business

* Church Expansion/Capital Campaign Update: Our next step is receiving a proposal for the building, and then determine when we can break ground. Possible ground-breaking at our 20th anniversary celebration with the Bishop. We exceeded our Capital Campaign goal with \$2,202,690 pledged, plus an additional \$10,000 from the Knights. \$840,000 in the building fund.

* Eucharistic Revival: There will be live-streaming for the Eucharistic Congress in July. Further discussion when there is new information on how to share with the Parish. Corpus Christi procession will be June 2nd. Deacon and Jennifer Chan are working on procession details.

* 2024 Retreat Planning: At the meeting, Deacon Gary was still in the process of looking for a speaker. Since then, we do have a speaker confirmed and the Retreat will be September 14th.

* Training assignments: Jeff Chan handed out and went over PPC binders with the new members. He will have a meeting with the new members before next PPC meeting.

* Thoughts on increasing community presence and visibility: We have a large geographical area in our parish to show our visibility and how we can serve them. We will check on doing a booth possibly next year at Sucker Days. FCA at Nixa HS will be explored for the coming year.

* Annual review of Pastoral Plan: Moved to June meeting. See New Business.

* 20th Anniversary planning: A planning meeting is set for May 29th at 7pm after Mass. All parishioners that expressed interest in special events have been sent an email to attend and it will be in next week's bulletin looking for volunteers.

New Business

* Parish Pastoral Plan: Review each of the six focus areas for any gaps, struggles, or hopes you are aware of. Homework assignment for current PPC members.

* PPC officers and assignments: Be thinking and praying if you would like to have an elected role for 2024-2025. We will be voting on a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. Also consider your Pastoral Plan committee preferences.

* Received a letter from Bishop Rice regarding the “Invite One Back Initiative”. This can be part of our Pastoral Plan “Welcoming Parishioners” efforts next term.



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIocese of
SPRINGFIELD–CAPE GIRARDEAU

Office of the Bi.

Dear Monsignors and Fathers,

While we are well past the Covid-19 restrictions, some of our parishes still have not regained pre-pandemic numbers for Sunday attendance at Holy Mass. And we all know the reality that “Keep holy the Lord’s Day” is no longer a motive for a significant percentage of our Catholic population. Little by little, the hobbies of life have crept into Lord’s Day to such an extent that the parking lot of the local athletic center or golf course is more crowded on a Sunday morning than the parking lot of the local parish.

As part of the National Eucharistic Revival, a website of resources has been created to assist in this year of Parish Renewal, including the “Invite One Back Initiative.” This is a parish-based effort to reach the lapsed members of the flock, to invite them back to the celebration of Holy Mass and revitalize their sacramental life.

The [Invite One Back Initiative](#) is a perfect project for your Parish Pastoral Council and compliments our diocesan priorities of holiness, discipleship, and witness. The beauty of this program is in its simplicity. Make a list of those who have participated in RCIA, Baptism of a child, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, or Marriages over the past five years. Next, start praying for them on a parish level. Engage your rosary group, Adoration, include petitions at Mass and get the word out about this effort. Ask parishioners to submit names of those they haven’t seen in a while. From there you can send a letter or a postcard and make a phone call to reach out and invite people back. Samples for letters, postcards, and phone conversations can all be found on the Eucharistic Revival website. Additionally, a three part training webinar, offered in both English and Spanish, can be viewed by your Pastoral Council to help plan how best to implement this program in your parish.

As we celebrate the 350th anniversary of the revelation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, let us reflect on the words of St. Margaret Mary, “My greatest happiness is to be before the Blessed Sacrament, where my heart is, as it were, in Its center.” Let us do all we can to bring the hearts of our people to the heart of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. With my daily prayers and with gratitude for all that you do, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Edward M. Rice

Pastoral Plan Reports/Updates

* There was not anything new to report except Stewardship. We had around 100 parishioners for Evening of Gratitude. Thinking of moving date to February. Ministry fair is still being discussed.

Pastor's Comments

* We will be getting an Associate Pastor starting May 20. We need to show Fr. Pompeyo from St. Joseph in Springfield how friendly, and accommodating we are. Jeff Chan will welcome him at his first Mass on behalf of the Parish. In addition to St. Francis of Assisi, Fr. Shoby will be the Parochial Administrator for St. Joseph and St. Joseph Catholic Academy.

* We will have a Missionary Priest weekend of June 1st-2nd.

Closing Prayer: Glenda Griest and Adoration

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Dates to Remember:

5/27 Bishop Rice Memorial Day Mass at Resurrection Cemetery

5/29 Meeting for planning 20th Anniversary celebration

6/2 Corpus Christi and procession

6/19 Pastoral Council meeting 7pm - final meeting of 2023-2024 term

6/29-7/7 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage through Missouri

Stops close to Nixa: 6/29 Kansas City, 7/1 Windsor, 7/3-7/5 Jeff City

7/8-12 Vacation Bible School

7/12-14 Steubenville Retreat MSU-Springfield

7/17-21 National Eucharistic Congress Indianapolis