

St. Francis of Assisi – Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting – April 17, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:09 by Jeff Chan

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

Ex-officio Attendance: Deacon Gary Steffes, Julie Clarke

Excused Absence: John Walraven

Opening Prayer: Fr. Shoby

Welcome New Members: Joe Schmitz, Bob Baker and Trevor Chan

Question of the Week: Who are you shepherding in your life right now and who is shepherding you? One member shared an amazing story about how they felt they were being shepherded during a recent crisis. We also did silent reflection on this question.

Minutes of March 20, 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved

Old Business

- * Church Expansion/Capital Campaign update – \$2.0325 million has been pledged, 92% of the goal. There is approximately \$825K collected and \$250K in reserve in cash. We are looking to break ground in 4-6 months. There is a new parishioner that wants to be on the building committee.
- * Eucharistic Revival – Corpus Christi is June 2nd. Deacon Gary and Jennifer Chan are working on procession and details. Eucharistic Congress in July – two parishioners and Fr. Shoby are attending. Jennifer spoke to the Eucharistic Congress office, and they are looking into possible live streaming. Ours was not the first request... update from them in May.
- * 2024 Retreat Planning – Presenter from Diocese of Wichita is now a definite no. However, Jeff Chan recently went to Jefferson City to their stewardship conference and there are presenters there that may be willing to help us. Deacon Gary will start working those contacts and see what he can arrange so we can set a final date. We will table this to the May PPC meeting.
- * Community presence and visibility – How can we be more visible? Nixa Sucker Days are coming up May 17th-19th. May 4th Adopt-A-Street clean-up. Bob Baker brought up the FCA program at the high school. We need to have a Catholic presence there. Bob and Paul Durham will look into this further.

New Business

- * New Council Member Training Assignments – For next meeting, each current member to prepare a small summary on what each of us do individually. It will give the new members a better idea of what they might want to do, and then we can have individual training.
- * Report on Diocese of Jefferson City Stewardship Conference – Jeff Chan came back from the April 13th conference with lots of information to share. The whole diocese of Jefferson City is working on stewardship. He will get a report out soon. Following are some highlights: Education is the key. Our gap is 2/3 of the parishioners not knowing what Total Stewardship is. Only the core people seem to know. Studies show 7% of parishioners are actively engaged. 11% actively disengaged, which leaves 82% of parishioners, that need to be better informed. Stewardship needs to be defined, as there are likely many definitions. By doing stewardship you are professing your faith. Keep time talent and treasure all together, don't separate. Open up retreats to the whole parish for formation.
- * Homework for May – Review the Parish Pastoral Plan for our annual review. Also reconsider which objective best contains "Parish Events".
- * 20th Anniversary planning – A committee needs to be set up for this. Will get a list of parishioners that want to do Parish Events. Will again do Novena in advance of October Feast Day Mass. Father wants Bishop Rice, Bishop Leibrecht, and Msgr. Reidy invited for the day. Linda Howard and Cheryl Coffelt will get this organized, as we do not have a Parish Events coordinator at this time.

Pastoral Plan Reports/Updates

- * Prayer, Sacraments and The Eucharist – The Little Book programs continue to be popular with the Easter Books being distributed during Easter weekend. A book entitled "77 ways to Pray with your Kids" will be distributed before the end of PSR.
- * Total Stewardship/ Finance – Evening of Gratitude will be April 19th. Please remember to bring an appetizer.
- * Youth – Sabrina Bennink will begin as Youth Minister June 1. Jensen liams will continue until May 31 and then be a volunteer. Game night is scheduled for April 27th and a hike in May. Youth will be invited to help with Adopt-A-Street on May 4th. Two blankets were made on March 23rd. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of July 8-12th. Volunteers are needed. 13 youth were recently confirmed, 4 will receive First Holy Communion on May 5th.
- * Community Outreach/Service – Still looking for a facilitator for the St. Francis Cares Facebook. There were 2 posts in April (Decline to sign and Adopt-A -Street trash pick-up). 37 new people were just invited to join the group. Mike Ecker will be taking over coordinating Adopt-A-Street.

- * Welcoming Parishioners – St. Francis Friends will be starting back up. They will go back to the 4th quarter of 2023 to contacting new parishioners.
- * Evangelizing/“Finding New Parishioners” – Book study is finishing up Edith Stein. Their next book will be Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary. Evaluating and developing new adult formation opportunities. 3 possibilities for the coming months. There are already 3 individuals interested in RCIA for the coming year. Continue to work toward young family evening events.

Pastor’s Comments

- * Abbey Fuentes’ last day as Office Manager will be April 30th. A farewell celebration will be on April 28th after Mass. Amanda Floer is the new Office Manager. Deacon Gary will be taking over Parish Finance along with his role as Director of Religious Education (DRE). Sofia Mitchell will be in charge of RCIA. Sabrina Bennink will be the new Youth Minister as stated before. Please start calling the office directly instead of Deacon Gary or Father. Leave messages, problems, questions with Amanda and she will get answers for you.

Closing Prayer – Jeff Chan

Meeting adjourned at 8:30

Dates to Remember:

5/4 – Adopt-A-Street

5/5 – First Communion

5/4-5 – Capital Campaign ending weekend

5/11-12 – DDF weekend and May Crowning

5/11 – CPR Training

5/15 – Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 7:00p.m.

6/2 – Corpus Christi + procession

7/8-12 – Vacation Bible School