

St. Francis of Assisi – Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

September 21, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:12 pm by Jeff Chan

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

Excused Absence: Linda Howard

Ex-officio attendees: Dcn. Gary Steffes, Jayne Parmley (Stewardship)

Opening Prayer: Cheryl Coffelt

Key Passage and Question of the week: “I am free to do as I please with my money, am I not? Or are you envious because I am generous? Thus the last shall be first and the first shall be last?”

In awe of God’s generosity, how can you grow a spirit of generosity in your thoughts, words and deeds?
– Reflection was shared. “See Christ in others, be Christ for others.”

Minutes of August 17, 2022 council meeting, were reviewed and approved.

Pastor’s comments

- Bishop will write a letter to the Parish regarding a visit and suggestions coming from our Dean, Fr. Patrick Nwokoye from Holy Trinity. (note: St. Francis of Assisi is in Deanery 4)
- PSR started Sept 18 and is going well.

Old Business

- Council member photos were taken for Parish usage.
- Building signage: Lettering almost complete, cross in work.

New Business

- Pastoral Plan working session:
 - o Prayer/Sacraments: Think about different activities for Stations, prayer, Rosary
 - o Youth: Keep events at our Parish – do not send kids to neighboring parishes, as families may follow. Confirmation is moving to 7th and 8th grades. Involve youth in services or tasks that need to be done for the church.
 - o Community Service/Outreach: Look to outer/smaller communities in the Parish to help with service events. Parish service projects within the Nixa community. Social media presence.
 - o Welcoming New Parishioners: Bingo/Cards/Games at social events – opportunity to involve families and kids by teaching games.
 - o Evangelizing: Build on Fish Frys (offer more). Send out post cards & mass mailings.

- Livestreaming: With the dispensation from Bp. Rice now over, we need to get people back to Mass. There are typically 10-20 viewers for the stream. Need to consider service to help homebound or others with transport to get to Mass. From Debbie Durham, music ministry – livestreaming and music royalties has limited selection of music available for Masses. Motion raised by Clark Parmley to discontinue livestreaming, seconded by John Walraven. Motion carried unanimously. Need to verify that new video equipment was not ordered.

Reports

- Stewardship:
 - o Ministry fair was held Sat Sept 10 and Sun Sept 11. Attendance was good but not as many as hoped. Have heard that many people were out of town that weekend though.
 - o Still collecting time & talent forms but at least 80+ adults and 10+ youth forms so far. Asking ALL parishioners to fill out the form since we need accurate rosters for the ministry leaders even if you are planning to stay with the same ministries as last year.
 - o The Saturday crowd seemed a little shocked to have name tags and the ministry fair at their Mass. If we want Saturday parishioners to get involved we really need a better social presence at that Mass. Something for the Pastoral Council to think about is what should our Saturday vs. Sunday strategy be? Maybe a coffee and donuts equivalent once a month on Saturday night (e.g. soup supper in the winter? ice cream social in the summer? game night?).
- Finance: Many expenses in the month, income is stable. For Mission appeal, need to think about direct donations or percentage of Total Stewardship budget – about \$2100 was directly collected this year. Quick discussion on plan and costs for lighting the front of the building.
- Liturgical: Will be setting up training/re-training sessions for various ministries. Oct 13 Rosary at Planned Parenthood, recognizing 105th anniversary of Fatima Miracle of the Sun.
- Formation: PSR has strong lead teachers, with co-leads and aides. First Youth Group meeting held Sun Sept 18. Symbolon program for adult formation. CRE resigned.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Shoby

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Chan and Seth Hampel