

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jeff Chan

Attendance: Paul Durham, Glenda Griest, Clark Parmley, Linda Howard and Jeff Chan

Ex officio attendance: Julie Clarke

Excused Absence: Fr. Shoby Chettiyath, Chris Johnmeyer, Seth Hampel, Cheryl Coffelt, John Walraven, and Deacon Gary Steffes

Opening Prayer: Jeff Chan

Question of the Week: What lessons do you take from the dramatic story about which many are called but few are chosen? We had a lively discussion on this from not knowing the time or place, being ready at all times, saying the Act of Contrition anytime we feel the need, to venial sins and what sins are forgiven at the beginning of Mass. This last discussion we need to get clarification at the next meeting.

Minutes of meeting September 20 2023 were reviewed and approved

Old Business

Finalize Pastoral Plan goals and objectives document- Almost all areas are now complete. There are 5 areas under Community Outreach that are currently being updated. Jeff Chan will send out the updated Pastoral Plan.

Church expansion update- Gretchen Gambon presented the results of the survey and interview process to the parish. Decision was made to proceed with a capital campaign, and a campaign committee was formed. There are new drawings and renderings of the education building and sanctuary renovation.

All-Councils retreat report and discussion-Lots of good feedback on the retreat. Really enjoyed Fr. Andrew Williams from Joplin. A report will be forthcoming.

New Business

Eucharistic Revival- Deacon Gary is working on this to begin in January with small discussion groups.

Form ad-hoc nominating committee for March 2024 PPC elections-A nominating committee has been established for March 2024 PPC elections. Glenda Griest (lead), Paul Durham and Clark Parmley are committee members. We continued with discussions on positions to be filled. We have 3 council members (Durham, Griest, Parmley) that have served 2 terms and will not be eligible. We have 2 council members that can be elected for another term (Howard, Walraven). Need to begin thinking and asking people who might be interested in serving on the Parish Council.

Round Table-

We discussed the gaps and opportunities for the Parish in connection with the Parish Pastoral Plan:

1. Visibility- How to increase our name in the community. Ideas: NIXPO, Sucker days, signs in front yards.
2. Community Outreach- Work with Stewardship on possible service projects
3. Youth involvement- We now have a new Youth Director. Get the youth involved in some community projects.
4. Adult Formation- Work to increase small groups participation, and Sunday formation

1st Saturday of the month after Mass- snacks, coffee, appetizers. Trying to get Saturday night parishioners to feel more involved in Parish activities.

Jeff Chan will send out a link for the Evangelization and Discipleship Summit at Holy Trinity on November 4.

Pastor's Comments

Fr. Shoby would like us to start working on a date for the 2024 Retreat on Stewardship. We need to set a date early since speakers are in big demand.

Closing Prayer: Jeff Chan

Dates to Remember:

Saturday, Nov 4-Diocesan Evangelization and Discipleship Conference

Sunday, Nov 5- Presentation of Building Plans-after 9:30 Mass

Sunday, Nov 12- Advent tea party

Sunday, Dec 3- Nixa Christmas Parade

Sunday, Dec 10- Youth Mass

Friday, Dec 15-Saturday Dec 16- Healing Conference at SEAS