

## **St. Francis of Assisi Parish Pastoral Council -Meeting Minutes**

**September 20, 2023**

**Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Paul Durham**

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

**Excused Absence:** Chris Johnmeyer

Ex-officio attendees: Deacon Gary Steffes, and Julie Clarke

**Opening Prayer:** Paul Durham

**Question of the Week:** Passage “Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan”. What thoughts or behaviors place limitations on your response in mercy and generosity? We discussed what behaviors in our lives hold us back.

**Reviewed minutes of June 21, 2023 (attached and previously approved through email in July)**

### **Old Business**

- > Continue work on moving Pastoral Plan to action - We spent a lot of time going through each ministry updating contacts for every area needing updates. Tonight was the first time we've actually gotten to go through the Pastoral Plan as a group.
- > Church expansion update - Seth Hampel deferred this to Fr. Shoby and Deacon Gary. Report of findings online and in-person. There were 38 personal interviews and 70 on survey monkey. There was a good response, good idea to move forward and to start a Capital Campaign. The survey indicated we are a caring, friendly, faith-filled Parish. Indicated the Parish is meeting the spiritual needs of the community, and there is good support. Surveys also indicated we are above the norm for giving of our time and talent. Parishioners would like to see more detail on the multi-purpose room. Currently there are 83 children in PSR starting with Pre-K. Beginning last week there will be an update in the weekly bulletin on the Capital Campaign going forward, each week.
- > Ad hoc retreat committee update - The retreat will be held October 7, 2023. Fr. Andrew Williams from Joplin will be our speaker on the Eucharist. The committee will meet Tues Sept 26 at 10:30 to make final plans, on food, drink, etc.
- > Eucharistic Revival - Jennifer Chan is writing an article each week for the bulletin entitled Eucharistic Miracles. The Parish has Adoration 30 minutes before Mass. A question was brought up on reverence. It was tabled for next meeting.
- > Close on 2023-2024 officer elections – After querying the Council members for interest in acting as Council Chair, none was voiced. Jeff Chan has agreed to be our Chair one more year.

## **New Business**

> March 2024 PPC elections - Begin thinking about possible candidates for upcoming elections. Jeff Chan will work with the office to get current Council member status for additional terms.

## **Reports & Updates**

> Prayer, Sacraments & The Eucharist - no updates or problems at this time.

> Total Stewardship – Julie Clarke shared that there will be first Saturday of each month social gathering after 5:30 Mass. The first is scheduled for October 7 with coffee, tea, and desserts. Glenda Griest updated that the Finance Council will begin meeting quarterly instead of monthly.

> Youth - no update or problems at this time

> Community Outreach/Service - no update or problems at this time

> Welcoming Parishioners - no update or problems at this time

> Evangelizing/"Finding new parishioners" - Adult formation has begun after 9:30 Sunday Mass. Sister Catherine is helping Deacon Gary. Small group program will begin in January 2024. RCIA has begun-7 catechumens and 3 potential candidates. Book study sessions have resumed. Currently reading Jesus the Bridegroom.

## **Pastor's Comments**

> We need to get more parking spots so that parishioners won't need to park in the grass. This will be about \$10,000.00

> Remember a Capital Campaign is a sacrifice. See Church Expansion update for Fr. Shoby's other comments.

> St. Francis Novena starts Monday September 25th after 9am Mass.

**Closing Prayer-** Fr. Shoby gave the closing prayer with a blessing

## **Dates to Remember:**

Monday, Sept 25-Tues, Oct 3 - St. Francis of Assisi Novena

Sunday, Oct.1 - St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day Celebration

Saturday-Oct 7 - All Councils Retreat, and Social Gathering

Saturday, Oct 14-Sunday Oct 15 - Stewardship Fair

Wednesday, Oct 18 - PPC meeting

Sunday, Oct 29<sup>th</sup> - Trunk or Treat

Saturday, November 4 - Evangelization & Discipleship Summit at Holy Trinity, 9am-3pm