

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes September 24, 2024

Present: Fr. Robert Barnell, Kate Brockman, Jake Kerger, Debbie White, Patrick Parris, Victor Khannausa, Dan Young, Jordan Eblen, Helen Walter, Jose Vega

Absent: Karen O'Rourke, Mandy Goodwin, Aaron Thompson, Tony Forns

Fr. Robert opened the meeting at 7:02 with prayer followed with a reading, petitions and a blessing for the Pastoral Council.

The August Minutes were corrected and approved.

Pastor's Update: Fr. Robert was approached about starting a Women's Bible Study in October and ending around March called "Walking with a Purpose."

We are still looking for a good candidate for the After School Program Director. Fr. Robert stated he is going to send an email with a Novena prayer for a new director. He asked if we knew of anyone who might be interested to pass it on to him. We are also still looking for a teacher for the After School Program.

The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in August had a sizeable crowd and had positive feedback for the event.

Fr. Shane of Holy Trinity invited all the pastors who have schools in Jefferson County to attend a meeting at his parish. One of the main themes of the meeting: "Are we promoting our Catholic faith and living out our mission through the school?" The Archdiocese recommends having a Formation Committee which is concerned with any of the religious education in the school and parish. We may want to consider starting a Formation Committee. The last time we had a Formation Committee was in 2018.

This year's IGiveCatholic project is the resurfacing of both playgrounds. The cost to do both is \$67,000. The amount raised will determine if one or both playgrounds are resurfaced. Patrick is working on the website for IGiveCatholic which he will update weekly. The advanced giving starts in November. We are hoping for some company matching or donations. Giving Tuesday is December 3. Offline giving closes on December 10. This year the IGiveCatholic team is comprised of Patrick, Theresa Garrett, Donna Schabel, and Talgrace who is helping with social media.

Patrick would like to start an Administrative Committee, who, with the support of staff, would work with all of the subcommittees that only had events in parts of the year, like the Festival and Stewardship. With the new Stewardship Ministry Form, Patrick is checking if anyone would be interested in starting this committee up again. The last time we had this committee was in 2008. He would like to start it up in January or February.

There was a discussion on the updated Pastoral Council Structure and Operations.

Committee Updates:

Stewardship: The Council discussed ways to remind Parishioners about their financial pledges made earlier this year.

Patrick passed out the new Ministry Form which will go out as a mailing before the end of September. The form includes a QR code for descriptions of all of the listed ministries. Next Spring, the financial and ministry forms will be combined.

The old rectory on Lincoln Road sold and the closing is on Thursday. The house sold for \$305,000 with no inspections and was a cash offer. The house closed within two weeks and two days of being listed.

There will be a Regional Advent Mission with St. Edward, St. Martha, and John Paul II on December 2-4. Ascension will be promoting the event but it will not be held here.

Patrick said Eddie Jarboe has 5 children in the Sunday Religious Education program, which is the total at the end of last year. He is receiving help from a parishioner from Our Lady of Lourdes.

Food Pantry: Pattie Filley, the coordinator for John Paul's II Food Pantry, has been in the hospital. Mary Ridenour stepped in while Patty is out. Ascension provided a basketful each week for a month, which was a good showing for the month. Should we continue this monthly all year, or just a month here and there? The Food Pantry served about 600 individuals in August.

In October, we will be collecting diapers for the Diaper Bank.

There was a discussion about recording a virtual tour of our school. This idea will be discussed at a future meeting.

Safety: Jake Kerger asked about possible dates in November for the CPR Certification. This would be open to any Parishioner who wants to attend the course. It is a three to four hour course and the certificate lasts two years. Jake will present these dates to the instructor.

PTO: Jordan Eblen reported Oktoberfest had a lot of volunteers. They made around \$3,800. Jordan said he is trying to recruit more volunteers and seeking ideas to get better attendance to the PTO meetings.

Athletics: Jose Vega said everything is going well. He said he is trying to put Athletics in an App. There is information in the Lowdown (School Newsletter) and on the website. The sports calendar is also listed on this App. So far, there are 130 members (parents) in the group. They are going to try this and see if it helps with communications. This App is open to anyone, like alumni, grandparents, etc. Postings are only open to the director and coordinators.

There is a planning meeting on October 7 for the remodel of the Concession Stand. Currently the start date is in April, after basketball season is over and to have it completed before volleyball starts in July.

The next Board Meeting is on October 3. One of the topics to discuss is some type of activity

after Mass on Sundays as a meet and greet. Some ideas would be basketball, soccer, etc.

Finance: Aaron Thompson emailed that the Finance Committee will not meet until Wednesday. The only thing to report is the sale of the Lincoln Road house.

School Board: Mandy Goodwin emailed that the School Open House is Tuesday October 29. Open House signs will be going out into the community in the next few weeks.

School improvement plan has been finalized by the staff, and they feel the goals are achievable.

School Support visit for accreditation: The Archdiocese assessment team will be at the school on Wednesday October 23 for a visit during the school day. Some School Board members are being asked to be available for interviews.

Worship: Karen O'Rourke emailed that the Worship Committee will not meet until October 8.

The next meeting is November 12.

Fr. Robert closed the meeting at 8:30 with prayer and prayer requests.