

St. James Pastoral Council Minutes

February 14, 2023

Members Present: Fr. John Hemsing, Terry Brecklin, Jeff Kenkel, George Fox, Sharon Young, Lynn Ann Reeseman, Joe Gonzalez, Scott Granicki, Tim Khoury, Liz Pierce

Not present: Charles Demge

Topic	Follow-up
<p>Call to Order 7:08 PM Room 4 Community Center Terry Brecklin offered the opening prayer and reflection</p>	
<p>Approval of the January 10, 2023 PC Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes had been issued electronically prior to the meeting. No corrections or revisions. Jeff made a motion to approve the January 10, 2023 minutes and Lynn Ann seconded the motion. With no objections, the minutes were approved. 	
<p>Liaison Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Concerns – Jeff Kenkel – The tithes which will be paid in February are - Catholics Peace for and Justice, and St. Bakhita Catholic Worker Inc. The Lenten theme, “Care for Creation” Laudato Si will be in the bulletin each week of Lent. Leap of Faith cards will be placed on pedestals in the worship space. Each card contains a Corporal Work of Mercy, a Spiritual Work of Mercy and an action associated with Caring for Creation. Tim Khoury – relative to the Human Trafficking initiatives they questioned, how do committees or ministries receive funding? By request, or as part of planned budget, or other means? Fr. indicated requests for funds should be directed to him, to review with the Finance Council. The Human Trafficking committee is developing plans for 2023-2024, including and considering what support is available. Christian Formation – Lynn Ann Reeseman met with the Christian Formation staff. They are doing a lot of prayer, a lot of service, and a lot of good content – in summary following the model of Living that Jesus gave us. Three challenges stood out 1) meeting the requirements for safeguarding certification (the difficulty of getting a certified sub at the last minute, 2) the amount of time spent on fundraising, and 3) the inadequacy of the technology as an instructional tool. Equipment is piece-meal, limited, antiquated. THE CF Commission could use help in preparing for Catechetical Sunday, and recognizing their volunteers. Asked if they knew what the pastor’s mission is, they were unaware. Fr. mentioned some funds from the Love One Another campaign are targeted toward technology upgrades. They also felt a strength of the program is the diversity of the Catechists. Stewardship – Scott Granicki – Reached out to Steve Choate but has not had a reply to date. Prayer & Worship – Sharon Young – P&W held a quarterly meeting. All were excited about having the Nativity scene in church. Fr. was recognized as complimenting the acolytes noting they help Mass go smoothly. We could always use more distributors and lectors. They discussed Good Friday’s 	

<p>Passion, and the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday. Fr. indicated he will wash feet this year. Council members will be involved with the setting of the altar on Holy Thursday. Seven members indicated they are planning on attending. A rehearsal/walk through previously took place the evening before.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance – Joe Gonzalez – January cash flow report was reviewed. Fiscal YTD envelope collections are under budget by about \$30,000. Balance on the line of credit is approximately \$97,000, having to do with the expense for the new boilers. 432 families have pledged over \$700,000 in stewardship, a big improvement over last year. Building and Grounds is having inspections completed for all major systems – structural, electrical, plumbing and mechanical. The big project they looking at is the connection to the new water main. 	<p>For Holy Thursday - Confirm at next meeting who will participate and if/when there will be a run through.</p>
<p>Strategic Plan</p> <p>Goal 1 – Culture of Invitation and Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postcard Update – Terry has been working with John Kline to gather photos. We will need to get some into the correct format. Once ready Terry will meet again with Joe, to plan out the contract, then contact the Welcome Wagon representative. • Welcome Breakfast/New Member Welcome – Options for a breakfast were discussed. March 19th was selected as it coincides with the Knights of Columbus St. Patrick’s Day pancake breakfast already on the calendar. There are 70 new members to invite. Fr. would welcome them personally at the breakfast, and he would need someone to provide a tour of the parish and historic chapel. • Time and Talent Survey – Some are still coming in. The office will make copies of the surveys, then provide a copy to each department/organization as appropriate. They in turn then can reach out to the volunteers. <p>Goal 2 – Spiritual Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insights from Archdiocesan CF Event at St. James – Our facility was well received by the members of the archdiocese. They loved having the event here. • Lenten Events – There is a possibility to survey the parish members who participated in the Archdiocesan event. As a part of the spiritual growth discussion, the idea of creating simple questionnaire which can handed out to participants immediately after. The questions being direct – Did you grow Spiritually because of the program Yes/No. Or a simple check the box format, making it quick and easy. • Archdiocese Pallium Lecture Feb 21st – You can still register for it. 	<p>The office can put together a list of new members, and send invitations to them.</p> <p>Terry will remind Sue of the need to survey participants.</p>
<p>Pastor’s Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Stewardship Appeal – Fr. plans on preaching this weekend on three things - St. James stewardship, Catholic Stewardship Appeal and the Love One Another campaign. “Give to the one who asks of you” will be highlighted from the readings. The CSA video will be shown on TV’s or monitors set up in the gathering space, after Masses this weekend. • Love One Another Campaign – Fr. made phone calls inviting parish members to the dinner with the archbishop. We have 15-16 volunteers to help with the 	

<p>LOAC, who will be making contacts to parishioners, to solicit pledges. Our goal is \$1.4 million, of which St. James receives 60%. This campaign is for our long-range goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ash Wednesday – Masses are at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM, with a soup supper before and after the evening Mass. • Holy Thursday – April 6th with the Pastoral Council preparing the altar. • Ecumenical Service – Fr. met with the other pastors in the area. Fr. has a problem with taking a Catholic service and comingling it with an ecumenical service. With communion being distributed at Mass, we cannot welcome people to receive Catholic communion if they are not Catholic. Fr. suggested we hold an ecumenical service at another time, like for example, the eve of Thanksgiving. Fr. offered St. James as the location. Most other pastors were happy that we did it, and coordinated the service, especially during one of the busiest seasons of the church year. Fr. will meet again with the other pastors next week, and will talk about at that time. • Easter Vigil – The vigil starts at nightfall, so must be after 8:00 PM • Worship Space – Fr. has noticed, based on various pictures, that the altar and pulpit have moved over time. He expects he will be repositioning it, as he has a hard time seeing the congregation over the altar. He also will be removing the hand rail at the front of the altar prior to Easter. It is in the way of his celebrating the sacraments. He has noticed very few people utilize the railing, and considered it may have been installed to assist Fr Dennis previously. In the future, Fr. may consider putting up a railing on the side of the altar. • 35th Anniversary of Ordination and Installation – Fr. is looking toward May or June for a combined celebration of his installation and the 35th anniversary of his ordination. Fr. would like to have some kind of celebration after each Mass, such as a spaghetti dinner and pancake breakfast. We are hoping the archbishop is available. • Parish Org Chart – Fr. shared a copy of the parish organizational chart, which represents the “reporting” structure of all parish personnel, ministries, and organizations. Fr. will present this to the staff to assure it is complete and accurate, adding other leaders of committees and organizations. The PC was pleased to see the reporting structure defined in this org chart. • Parish Budget – Fr. asked the staff to present a realistic budget for their annual needs, based on planned specific needs. Not one based on a simple increase over last year’s budget. 	
<p>March Meeting – Tuesday the 14th 7:00 PM</p>	
<p>Fr. John provided the closing prayer The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm</p>	