

St. James Pastoral Council Minutes

March 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, Charles Demge

Not present:

Topic	Follow-up
<p>Call to Order 7:09 PM STJ Great Room Liz Pierce offered the opening prayer and reflection</p>	
<p><b>Approval of the February 14, 2023 PC Minutes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes had been issued electronically prior to the meeting. Spelling and capitalization corrections were noted. Tim made a motion to approve the February 14, 2023 minutes and Scott seconded the motion. With no objections, the minutes were approved.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Liaison Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human Concerns – Jeff Kenkel – March tithes which will distributed – Kinship Community Food Center (St. Casimir, Milwaukee), and Menomonee Falls Food Pantry. The staff did a nice job creating the Matthew 25 Leap of Faith Cards. We are hoping more cards will be picked up this weekend. It was thought the card basket placement may have been better in the back of church, allowing people to easily take one as they departed from Mass. Attendance at the Laudato Si and Matthew 25 presentations has been sporadic. Bob Schuelke is reaching out to find additional leadership and volunteers to assist with the Ellacuria program. Rice Bowls have been made available and we expect them to be returned Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Tim Khoury – Brainstorming continues for the Human Trafficking group. Members are reaching out to Optimist Club, and local businesses to establish partnerships. The group would like to give a short update presentation to PC. Fr. asked if the group was connected with Mary Jane, a minister from UCC St. Josephs in Merton, and member of the CCOC.</li> <li>Christian Formation – Lynn Ann Reeseman – No update</li> <li>Stewardship – Scott Granicki – Requested a copy of the Time and Talent Surveys where Stewardship was selected. To date, we are expecting at least 15 new parish members to attend this Sunday’s Pancake Breakfast. Many PC members indicated they plan on attending and will make it a point to welcome them.</li> <li>Prayer &amp; Worship – Sharon Young – Nothing to report.</li> <li>Finance – Chuck Demge – February cash flow report was reviewed. Fiscal YTD envelope and offertory collections are down, \$40,000 under budget. The monies for the Bill Saladin Memorial Fund have been placed into a savings account. To date 450 families have pledged over \$738,000 in stewardship, while another 200 have not pledged, but continue to donate. Finance will be including a financial overview (actual to budget), each month in the bulletin, in addition to the weekly recap. The personnel team has completed all job</li> </ul>	

descriptions, and are now reviewing salaries. One open position will not be filled, and the duties shared among other positions. Building and Grounds has completed the inspections and created a budget and list of projects. They would like to present this information to PC to get direction on how to move forward. Connection to the new water main is estimated at about \$150K and is still in the planning phase with the village.

## Strategic Plan

### Goal 1 – Culture of Invitation and Welcome

- **Postcard Update** – Terry indicated we still need the high-res images. She mocked up a postcard, and her husband is working on the design layouts.
- **Table Captains for New Member Welcome** – PC members are signed up to attend and meet the new parishioners. Tables will be reserved, via tall signs on each table.
- **Time and Talent Survey** – Per Fr. Parish staff is continuing to work through the surveys to assure everyone is contacted.

### Goal 2 – Spiritual Growth

- **Lenten Offerings** – Ladato Si and Matthew 25 have had small attendance. We will be seeking out some other Archdiocesan resources to help us with other programming.
- **Volunteer/Committee Appreciation or Meet and Greet** – Coming out of the Strategic Planning Committee is the idea of getting “everyone” who is involved with the parish together. The SPC had discussed the idea of an appreciation dinner, or a wine and cheese event. PC discussed the idea further with these considerations:
  - We have no list of all groups or volunteers, so not sure how to bring this about. Father’s development of the Org Chart may be a good starting point.
  - Just have an open invitation, to try and see who shows up.
  - Set it up like a trade show, with tables for each major committee represented, ready to share what they do.
  - We have a lot of splinter sub-teams. How are they being supported? Are they receiving any parish funds (directly or indirectly)?
  - An event like the prior “All Committee Night” would give each group an opportunity to meet with Fr., give appreciation, and move on.
  - To gain attention put a flyer page in the bulletin. Along with an announcement at Mass.
  - It is important to make sure the purpose of the event very clear. We have lost touch with one another since COVID – Fr. could speak to this and pull everyone together. In short, a state of the parish to all volunteers.
  - No date specified – late April may be too soon; early May would be better.
- **Next SPC Meeting with Father March 24<sup>th</sup>**

### Council and Trustee Openings

- **Trustee Openings** - We are going to return to alternating Trustee openings. With Trustee terms currently out of sync, the means to get here lies with Father.

Terry to discuss this further with Fr. and work on a flyer. All to discuss the idea with their respective committees and gather feedback, as well as listing all sub-committees they deal with.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Upcoming Open Spots on Council</b> – We will have two openings, Terry and Tim, are ending their second terms. Scott and Sharon will be ending their first term, and were asked to decide if they will continue with a second term.</li> <li>• <b>Recruitment; Nomination Process</b> – An announcement and request for volunteers will be placed in the bulletin. Terry noted one of the most successful means of recruiting has been by PC members personally asking and encouraging others.</li> <li>• <b>Discernment Process</b> – Selection of members has been done by discernment in the past. Liz indicated the Green Bay diocese pulled volunteer names from a hat – selections made by the “power of the Holy Spirit”.</li> </ul>	<p>Terry to post an announcement in the bulletin requesting new members.</p>
<p><b>Pastor’s Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Catholic Stewardship Appeal</b> – No update.</li> <li>• <b>Love One Another Campaign</b> – We are at about 16% of the goal, and still in the “Quite Phase”. We are looking at the possibility of people doing “Witness Talks”.</li> <li>• <b>Archdiocesan Day of Reconciliation</b> – March 29<sup>th</sup> at St. Dominic’s. An all-day opportunity for confessions/reconciliation.</li> <li>• <b>Holy Thursday</b> – The Pastoral Council will be setting the altar. Fr. encouraged any council members attending to come forward and have their feet washed during the Mass, to help spur others to come forward.</li> <li>• <b>35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fr. John’s Ordination and Installation</b> – We are still in the planning stages for this event.</li> <li>• <b>Patronal Feast Day</b> – July 23<sup>rd</sup> we are discussing how we will celebrate that day, possibly doing something big like a cookout.</li> <li>• <b>Fellowship Weekend</b> – We used to have this event one weekend each month, with a committee or group serving drinks and donuts. Fr. would like to reinstitute this, so need to discuss how this can be planned and executed.</li> </ul>	<p>Let Terry know if you will be attending this Mass</p>
<p><b>April Meeting – Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM</b></p>	
<p>Sharon provided the closing prayer The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM</p>	