

St. James Pastoral Council Minutes

September 12, 2023

Members Present: Fr. John Hemsing, Jeff Kenkel, Scott Granicki, George Fox, Liz Pierce, Hayde Becker, Sharon Young, Dan Sawyer, Dennis Lentz, Cheryl Romuald, Charles Demge, Joe Gonzalez

Not present:

Topic	Follow-up
<p>Call to Order 7:04 PM STJ Great Room Sharon Young offered the opening prayer and reflection</p>	
<p>Approval of the August 15th, 2023 PC Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No corrections or revisions were made to the 8/15/23 minutes. Scott made a motion to approve, Dan seconded the motion. With no objections the minutes were approved. 	
<p>Commission Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Concerns – Dan - August tithing, \$500 each went to the Women’s Center and Hebron House. September will go to Family Missions and All Saints Outreach Ministries. Discussed an early start for the Giving Tree, by publishing information in the bulletin a month prior to setting up the Giving Tree, on how donations are used by the various organizations we support. Catechists are still needed. STJ’s Human trafficking members participated in both the Sussex and Menomonee Falls Night Out events. Human trafficking also makes lunch for Franciscan Peacemakers, the next lunch is September 22nd. They are planning on sponsoring an awareness program speaker to talk at Hamilton High School Parent Connects group. Dan mentioned ERAS senior network of Waukesha County needs drivers to take seniors to appointments, shopping, etc... Fr. indicated he supports the use of the bulletin, Facebook, or webpage for community outreach services, as space is available. He also indicated speaking at Mass is limited to Parish activities only. Prayer and Worship – Sharon and Dennis - Barb needs to meet with Fr. for Advent, before they hold their next meeting. Stewardship – Hayde and Liz - Reformation of this commission is underway. Their focus is on setting goals, such as welcoming parishioners back and evangelization - welcoming individuals in. Welcome wagon postcard mailings have started. Discussed bringing back Welcome Sunday, with each committee being the host. The Knights have a pancake breakfast on September 24th. New members will receive a personal invite to this event. Fr. indicated we have 78 new members since March. Next meeting October 10th 2:00 PM. Christian Formation – Cheryl volunteered to be the liaison. No report this month. Finance – Chuck – Chuck shared the confidential financial statement for the fiscal year ending June 2023. Highlights include ending the year in the positive with a net surplus of \$64,258, excluding the \$227,936 Earned Retention Credit. The surplus and relief monies will allow us to pay down some of our long-term debt, which the Finance Council is planning. The 2023-2024 Archdiocesan assessment is \$67,680. Once the Financial Statement is approved by the Archdiocese, an annual parish report will be prepared. This 	<p>Reminder to send commission minutes to the parish office Attn: Michelle Beimborn</p> <p>PC members are encouraged to meet new members and extend a welcome</p>

<p>year, in lieu of having a parish meeting the annual report will be shared via mail, or e-mail, with all parishioners. Fr. shared the Pastoral Council portion of the 2023-2024 Parish budget - \$3,126.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Knights of Columbus Update - Scott noted the KofC has a new Grand Knight Eric Junke. Scott welcomed the parish to take advantage of their members for any needs of the parish, as they focus their support locally. Hayde indicated she would help write any bulletin notices for the Knights. 	
<p>Pastor's Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Seminarian – Jerry Prezkora was introduced at all masses last weekend. He is a second-year student from the Sacred Heart Seminary School of Theology, Gaylord, MI. He will be lecturing, eucharistic ministering, Christian Formation, and greeting, to gain parish experience. ● Parish Deacon – Fr. put in a request for a permanent Deacon. ● Parish Staff Day of Reflection – On August 30th staff had a tour of the Cathedral, and were given a history of the Archdiocese from Bishop Haines, followed by lunch. ● One Percent Prayer Challenge – This program is a spiritual growth challenge which will be included in the September 24th bulletin. The program cards will be placed in the pews the weekend of October 1st. ● Statue of Mary Shrine – A statue of Mary, Our Lady of Grace, has been donated by parishioner Kim McKluski in honor of his wife Mary, and has been placed next to the historic chapel. ● Alter Railing Update – The wood rail design has been completed, matching the existing design of the altar and ambo. ● Seminary Dinner – There are two openings for any member who would like to attend this annual fundraiser on October 6th. We will carpool again this year. ● Love One Another Campaign – Our goal was \$1,446,516. To date pledges total \$1,219,072.08, or 84% of our goal! We had a very good response. ● Eucharistic Ministers and Acolytes Day of Reflection - On September 30th, Fr. will share how I want things to go during mass, so all are on the same page. ● Common Parish Meeting Night – Fr. asked if all the liaisons would discuss/ask if each group would accommodate a common meeting night. If so, on which day of the week. The night would start at 6:00 or 6:30 PM with a quick prayer and message from Fr. Both Parish Council and the Finance Council would continue to hold meetings on separate nights. Monday or Tuesday work best. 	<p>Let Fr. know if interested in attending this dinner.</p> <p>Liaisons discuss with each commission the idea of a common meeting night, and come back next month with feedback.</p>
<p>Open Discussion – This is a new segment for our meeting, open to questions, follow-ups, new ideas, and to share feedback of good things happening in the parish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hayde asked if rather than the traditional “black books” put out for Lent, could we get new materials for the various seasons. She mentioned “The Word Among Us” which she picked up elsewhere and now subscribes to. They have seasonal editions which follow along with daily mass, and she found it is a big help and resource. Fr. asked Hayde to investigate and bring forward. ● Scott - Presented the idea “could someone who meets you, tell that you are Catholic”? Do you wear a cross or a crucifix? Is it worn outside your clothing, or is it hidden under it? 	

October Meeting – Tuesday the 10th 7:00 PM

Fr. John provided the closing prayer
The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm