

Saint Joseph Pastoral Council Meeting

October 8, 2019

Opening Reflection/ Prayer

Meeting Called to order: 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Ann Gibney, Susanne Hankey, Claudia McCalley, Joan Wangen.

Committee Reports:

Faith Formation Commission Committee

Update from John Uhal

- 1) Overall we're doing well in faith formation.
- 2) Week of October 1st John lead Catholic Q & A with the junior high, juniors, and seniors to answer some of their questions.
- 3) The Word & Communion we've begun this year is a little slow to take off, but we're gathering more people every week, so hopefully it'll become a regular thing for more people.
- 4) Our new binder resources are a good source of catechetical material, at least for my class (Ignite...11th-12th graders), and I'm happy to have it.
- 5) The Rosary Warriors are also hoping to go around the Pastorate and St. Joseph's classes to have a rosary night where they'll talk about the rosary and end by praying it as a group. No plans have been set yet for St. Joseph, but hopefully they will be soon.
- 6) Hopefully we'll get something in the works in the next few weeks or months regarding Adult Faith Formation.

Update from Janine Berns

- 1) At our Catechist in-service and Faith Formation Commission meeting, goals for this year were drafted as such:
- 2) Utilize binders designed for each age group to track learning.
- 3) Catechist will hand in weekly lesson plans.
- 4) Set three dates for Father John to visit Saint Joseph classrooms: October 23rd, January 29th, and March 18th.
- 5) New handbooks and prayer books are to be printed and handed out to families. At our opening night, we held a brief overview of expectations.
- 6) Classes are large because of combining them, we now are asking adults to volunteer to sit in the classroom or be traffic control each week. This has been going well.
- 7) Work with Pastor and Faith Formation Commission to ensure that all programs are offered as a "service to parents, who are the first catechists of their children in the ways of faith".
- 8) Compile a tentative class schedule for the year. Some dates are subject to change.

9) We are currently waiting for paperwork from 2 possibly “new” students to be filled out and handed in.

10) Word and Communion is being offered every Wednesday night that there is Faith Formation. It is held beginning at 6 p.m. and is completed before classes begin.

NCYC paperwork is completed. Fundraising is ongoing with the current Emmaus Pastorate shirts being should to assist in the efforts.

FFCC Future Plans...

1) Plan for All Saints, All Souls, and Thanksgiving, if needed

2) Pre-plan and order Advent materials, if needed

Update from Faith Formation Commission

3) FFC had a brief meeting after Pastorate Faith Formation Meeting on September 3rd - Laura, Sara, Madonna, Janine, and John attended. The group thought it would be a good idea to ask for volunteers for traffic control at during Faith Formation to assist with parking lot safety. Also, we are blocking off parking in front of the Parish Center to ensure safety for kids crossing during drop off and pick up.

4) A shared document for signing up was distributed and completed by parents.

5) A shared document asking for classroom volunteers was also distributed and completed by parents.

6) Father recommended growing the FFC by appointing new commission members this year. We should give recommendations to Father John.

7) Father challenged us: What are we offering for adult education in our Parish?

8) John and Janine did a fantastic job with preparing/distributing materials and information at the Faith Formation kick-off night!

9) FFC is meeting Sunday, October 6th at 6:30 pm. We will meet again on Tuesday, November 19th at 6:30 pm. We will schedule meetings for January, March, and May. We will meet three times this year as a pastorate to evaluate and discuss Faith.

Parish Life Committee - Claudia McCauley, Chair

1) **Bereavement:** Training was held by Father John and 4 persons from the Pastorate attended.

2) **Cards :** Joanne Keleher reported that 70 cards had been sent since July 1, 2019. They are sent to new members of the parish, births, sympathy, etc.

3) **Ministry to Seniors :** Ellen reported that she has encouraged Linda Gardner, chair, to reach out to seniors and offer visits, etc.

4) **Events :** Ellen reported that four events and 1 funeral have been held since July 1st.

5) **Other Business :** The group discussed changes to Parish Life Committee practice and procedures. St. Mark's has implemented new practices and committee members reported that it appears to be helping. No decision was made at this meeting regarding if and how changes would take place at St. Joseph's.

6) **Ellen Collins** reported that she will be stepping down from her role as Parish Life Chairperson effective as of this meeting. She indicated that Father John will need to appoint a new chairperson. Alice White and the group thanked Ellen for her year leadership and work on behalf of Parish Life.

7) **Layettes:** The group sorted and packed donated infant and baby clothes which will be taken to Clarity Clinic or Mary's Inn in Dubuque. Ellen will deliver the clothes.

8) Parish Life Committee is awaiting appointment of Chairperson by Fr. John following Ellen Collins retirement from the position.

Finance Committee – Susanne Hankey, Chair

- 1) The St. Joseph's Finance committee met on Wednesday, September 11th, 2019 at 5:30pm at the Parish Center. A prayer was said by members in remembrance of September 11th.
- 2) We discussed meeting dates; at this time we will leave meetings on the second Wednesday of the month.
- 3) Discussed transfer of \$135,000 to the D& L fund in Dubuque. Advised committee members that with the transfer that it will save us about \$3000 in taxes this year. Reviewed tax formula with the committee; will provide assessment calculations to the committee after we get them back from the Archdiocese.
- 4) Ann Gibney reviewed the hall project; bat mitigation is finished and cost \$24319.00 to Critter control. The company to put in the lights will start next; going along well. Ann mentioned the Father would like lights over the serving bar; with the new lightning it should not be necessary and committee agreed that the lights were not necessary.
- 5) Gave initial report on the Community Fun Night; went well; dinner brought in \$1285 and the raffle over \$2000; will have final report when silent auction money is collected.
- 6) Discussed check register and cash flow. The committee would like to continue to see the budget report and the new members would like a balance sheet to document accounts and liabilities. We will need to look into current program the church is using and see it when can obtain usable information from the program for review for the committee.
- 7) Next meeting is October 9th, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Liturgy Committee: Joan Wangen, Representative

No Report

Social Justice: Jerry Muff, Representative

Absent- No Report

Stewardship Committee: No Representative

Ongoing Business: Ann Gibney, P. C. Chair

- 1) Review of the meeting minutes led to follow up questions needing clarification. Will greeters remain standing in the back of the church during Mass? If so, what responsibilities will they have compared to ushers? Is there discussion about changes to faith formation curriculum? During month of November, is there a schedule for ecumenical service in Elkader and if so will St. Joseph participate? Are there plans for parish sponsored Thanksgiving Dinner?
- 2) Parish Hall Update: Work is completed except painting and carpet cleaning which will take place after Parish Breakfast and Crafter's Fall Event at the end of October.

- 3) Survey of Parishoners: No information available as to when this will be done.
- 4) Time and Talent: No information available as to when this will be done.
- 5) First Friday with Father event at Deb's Brewtopia: Feedback has been positive and it was deemed a success. Follow up events will be schedule for November and December. Would Father John be available for "First Friday with Father" on November 1, 2019? Ann is looking for a volunteer to coordinate that event.
- 6) Word and Communion: Attendance numbers have increased each week. It is hoped that additional people can be trained to be "lay leaders" for the service. Ann is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the service on an ongoing basis: assigning Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers.

New Business: Ann Gibney, Chair

- 1) We are awaiting the parish survey before we move deeper into the pastoral goals and strategic plan.
- 2) The next parish council meeting will be Tuesday November 26, 2019 @ 6:30 at St. Mark's.
- 3) Further discussion about having St. Joe's Parish Council meeting on off months will take place following that.

Action Items Summary :

- Awaiting Father John's appointment of person to chair Parish Life Committee.
- Social Justice Committee to investigate possible Adult Mission Trip to Red Lake Minnesota.
- Check on Father John's availability to attend "First Friday with Father on November 1st.
- Volunteer needed to coordinate November Deb's Brewtopia event.
- Volunteer needed to coordinate Word and Communion service on Wednesdays.
- Survey of parishioners and time and talent surveys pending.
- Clarification on questions from staff meeting minutes.

P. C. Meeting's minutes taken by Claudia McCalley.

Committee Reports taken by Janie Wiley.

Respectfully submitted,

Janie Wiley