

St Francis of Assis – Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting – September 18, 2024

Meeting Called to order at 7:11 by Bob Baker

Attendance: Father Shoby Chettiyath, Cheryl Coffelt, Trevor Chan, Tracy King, Jeff Chan, Bob Baker, Joe Schmitz

Ex-officio Attendance: Deacon Gary Steffes, Julie Clarke

Excused Absence: Chris Johnmeyer, Ken Palermo

Opening Prayer: Joe Schmitz

Question of the Week: What are the best lessons you have learned from Children???

Minutes from June 19, 2024 were approved and accepted.

Old Business

- Church Expansion/Capital Campaign update: Father and Deacon Gary passed out pictures of a first rendering of the Sanctuary updates. Both feel the contractors have gone above and beyond. They like the lighter wood trusses and the decision for Heating placement.
- 20th Anniversary planning: All plans going well per Father. Ground Breaking to take place immediately after Mass

New Business

- Debriefing of Stewardship Retreat: It was suggested that we focus on 1 Pillar annually. Also, Father Shoby suggested that we have the same Presenters next year for our next retreat. There is a need for education/introduction to parishioners on Total Stewardship and also on the Pastoral Plan. Testimonials would be a good idea and Father Shoby proposed announcements possibly made after weekend masses discussing what Total Stewardship is. Julie will present this to the Stewardship Council.

- Communication Ideas: Tabled until next meeting.
- Ministry Leadership Meeting/Gathering: It was decided that this is necessary and should be planned soon. A committee was established including Bob Baker, Joe Schmitz, Jeff Chan and Julie Clarke.
- 2025 Ministry Goals – Updated from 2022-2023 (Homework Assignment): This will be addressed by the above committee.
- Round Table for other New Business: Joe asked for a digital copy of the Pastoral Plan

Pastorial Plan Reports/Updates:

Prayer, Sacraments & The Eucharist: No Report

Total Stewardship: No Report

Youth: Trevor reports that current Formation needs are being met. There is planning for Christmas and small group formation. There is a need for substitute volunteers. Trevor notes that the youth pushed back against last year's big focus on formation and the plan this year is to lead with fun and include small amounts of formation and monthly volunteer opportunities. Sabrina is asking the Council for volunteer ideas and how to build youth aspects onto things we are already doing and what is a weekly/monthly "job" for the Youth of the parish.

Community Outreach/Service: Joe would like to like to see more involvement with FCA and Sequa Clubs at schools. He is interested in increasing our participation with Least of These and Convoy of Hope. He also sees a need to extend servicing to the home bound.

Welcoming Parishioners: Cheri reports that Welcoming committee is waiting on new list of those interested in the ministry but that things are going well and contact are being made with new parishioners. There is a problem in that most people now do not answer unknown calls but working around by texting and emailing.

Evangelizing/Finding New Parishioners: Jeff offered an extensive report.

Adult Formation – seeking guidance for Stewardship education or options for post-Sunday Mass small groups.

Book Study – no change in goals. Next book is Elizabeth Seton – American Saint.

Hospitality – seeking list of ministry renewals and advanced notice/planning of events/meetings to facilitate supplies.

Parish Events – should this ministry be under Parish Council or Stewardship Council? What events fall under this?? There is overlap with Youth. Thanks to Linds Howard for leading the 20th Anniversary event planning.

OCIA(RCIA) – New Curriculum starting November. There is a need for volunteers, sponsors/godparents. Presently needing 5.

There is a need for Adult volunteers for child care. The lack of childcare is a roadblock to couples not able to attend. Using Youth is not a solution. Two or more volunteers needed for hospitality (snacks). At least two additional instructors for catechesis.

Until needs are met, unable to speak to non-Catholic outreach for evangelization opportunities.

Pastor's Comments: Father Shoby would like to see a Commissioning of the Councils. He also is looking into an electronic sign board.

Closing Prayer: Joe Schmitz

Meeting Adjourned: 9:20 PM

Dates to Remember:

10/16 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

10/19 Saint Joseph Catholic Academy's Beer, BBQ & Games

10/20 PSR Adoration

10/26 The Summit Discovering the Catholic Family Mission, Cape Girardeau