

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 11/20/2023 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Council: Lynne, Louise, Jim, Lisa, Deb, Barry, Dan-VP, Bob-President; and minutes by Leslie

Absent: Mike: excused

Staff: Fr. Fred, Fr. Ryan

Fr. Fred started the meeting in a group prayer. He handed out a worksheet showing the three approaches to evangelization: Win, Build and Send. This is a kind of format which the council can use to determine the way to assist parishioners in their desire to encounter Christ; to grow as disciples and to serve through sharing the gospel message.

Fr. Fred shared the following events/activities scheduled and he would like the council to have ready to implement early in 2024:

- A Eucharistic Procession will take place next weekend after the 9:00 and 11:00 AM Masses in honor of Christ the King. There will be opportunities for parishioners, children/youth, Knights of Columbus and those in the Music ministry to actively participate. Fr. Fred will lead after the 9:00 AM Mass and Fr. Ryan will lead after the 11:00 AM Mass.

- The theme during Advent is one of being watchful and alert by "Listening."

- Date Night will take place during Advent. This event allows parents to get out on their own while their children are cared for by volunteers engaging children in activities (crafts for example), a Christmas themed movie and pizza/refreshments.

- Christmas Mass times are as follows:

Sunday, December 24th - Christmas eve - 4:00 pm; 4:15 pm; 6:00 pm; 10:00 pm

Monday, December 25th - Christmas day - 9:00 am; 11:00 am

- Monday, December 11, 2023 a Penance service is scheduled. A large number of priests will be available to serve our large parish community.

- Fr. Fred desires to have a Lenten retreat. Potentially a three-day retreat (Mon, Tues, Wed) with 9:00 AM and evening services. A Penance service will be included. He is working on it.

- Fr. Fred would like a Leadership Formation Day to occur in February. The Parish Council will put it together. Bob is looking into a date that fits into our February schedule. The time frame for the event is 9:00 AM -12:00 PM. The Leadership Formation Day event will encompass the Method of the Master model and will include time for Mass, prayer, socialization/sharing and discussion. The staff will be invited to participate in the planning of this event.

- Fr. Fred would like to have a Staff Retreat in 2024. He shared positive results of the recent Staff retreat at Our Lady of Joy in Carefree.

- Other potential activities may include: a wine and cheese event for our winter parish members and serving families in need in the community providing a dinner on site and other support activities.

- Fr. Fred is looking into The Augustine Institute. They may be a source for our parish as they provide on-line classes on a variety of topics for education/growth; programs for children; movies and a Catholic library.

- Fr. Fred is looking into FOCUS. How's it working?; What do they do/offer? Will they have a program that sends someone here?

- There will be a good-bye get together for Ryan A primarily with people he worked with.

- Fr. Ryan will be heading the Marriage Preparation ministry. Fr. Ryan and Fr. Fred will be working with couples.

- Shannon will manage the Clairvaux Community Life magazine and see that the material gets in on schedule, etc. He will be on campus Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

- We will celebrate our 30th anniversary year in 2024. We are going to think of ways to celebrate. Some events to consider and plan for in 2024 includes a RCIA-OCIA reunion event; a Gala event; a pilgrimage with a small group (30 or so for example); a celebration of the history of our parish including recognition of our founding members as well as, providing the history of the Catholic church's establishment in Arizona.

Coffee Shop Update: Bob reported coffee shop well received. Although five girls from Notre Dame have volunteered more volunteers are needed. Bob noted that volunteers may not be available on a consistent basis. We would like to have high school age students involved. We need to pursue how students may volunteer and obtain community service hours. Bob has overseen providing safe food handling training for those who have been volunteering. Other requirements for volunteers will be to take the on-line "safe environment training" program. Dan is going to help Bob setting up the running of the coffee shop.

- Barry reported that the first get together with new parishioners on Nov. 12, 2023 went well. Barry, volunteers and Fr. Fred led some of the topics for small group discussions.

Facility Upkeep Projects: A compressor was replaced in our cooler used for refreshments after a small fire resulted attempting to use it after a lapse of use prior to Covid. Our staff office phone system is being updated to meet the current needs of our parish.

New Business Items: Dan reported on the work of the Outreach Team meetings.

- The Second Survey results have been published.
- The team discussed using the recent new parishioner meet and greet event as a model to form other gatherings for kindred spirits such as: the newly-wed and engaged couples in marriage prep programs, parent of children preparing for Baptism or recently Baptized, parents of youth in our catechetical programs, OCIA inquirers and recent grads with RCIA/OCIA alumni and catechists.
- The team suggested hosting a scheduled guided "tour" of our Church to explain the significance of the various pieces of artwork, relics, vessels, etc. Fr. Ryan will lead, assist and be involved in this endeavor.
- Resumption of our "Service Project" activities may be within the Evangelization Ministry. Volunteer participation in service activities with Andre House Maggie's Place, St. Mary's and perhaps SVdP may be considered.

Fr. Ryan was very pleased with the recent Anointing of the Sick service. He received positive feedback from attendees.

Next Parish Council Meeting: December 18, 2023 (3rd Monday of the month)

Submitted by: Leslie Arnison (recording secretary)