

## St. James Parish Council Minutes

April 5, 2023 @St James, Rm 7

*"Come-Seek-Grow-Share"*

**Attendees:** Fr Jordan, Jim Cox (Chair), Carolyn Evers, John Barrette, Mary Ann Karas, Chad Stovern (Chair-elect), Paul Smyczek (Trustee Secretary), Laverne Wrasman, Jessie Brovold, Karen Preuss (Sec),

**Excused:** Deacon Rob, Rick Murphy (Trustee), Jenni McFadyen,

**\*Opening Prayer:** John Barrette

**\*Approval of March Meeting Minutes:** Laverne motioned to approve

### ● - Old Business-

- **Stewardship/Hospitality:** There was discussion of fellowship/hospitality in the activity center, starting once/month. Stewardship will drive the activity, but we would look to each committee to host a month. We would look for the priest to make an announcement at the end of mass. Chad was reminded to consult with Kyle Lipold at St. Theresa. **ACTION:** Chad will draft a statement to put in bulletin to try to reassemble a stewardship committee. **ACTION:** Jim will work with Renee to generate a survey card to help gather membership information. Rick Murphy and Paul Smyczek will take the lead on working with the data once questionnaires are completed.
- **Capital Campaign:** Fr Jordan made request to Andy to see if we could do the bigger campaign amount (\$3.5 million). Andy will do his own research and then give final blessing. It was discussed that once St. James raises \$1 million, the archdiocese will get \$400,000 and everything else goes to the parishes. The Capital Campaign officially starts in August but is a quiet fundraising until 60% is raised. It will be rolled out to parish in Sept/Oct.
- **School:** Fr Jordan has talked with the archbishop regarding starting a school. He anticipates approval but will be submitting the formal report/proposal by next Friday. The parish would look to hire a principal in August. He would be here at the start of capital campaign to help with raise funding. He would also be here for a year before the school opens to help with planning curriculum, teachers, etc. There is someone considering the position and he visited the parish recently with his family (wife and 5 kids). He loves the classical model and has experience in education.
- **New Members:** Jim shared that we have 39 new members/families added since June 2022 when Fr. Jordan arrived. **ACTION:** Jim will work with Renee on what the current process is for new members. It was suggested that we include a request to upload a family photo as part of the application. We also discussed ideas on what to do; putting announcement in bulletin, having a board to be displayed in narthex, quarterly New Member Sunday, etc.
- **Committee Reports:** Mary shared that the Festival Committee is working to solicit some of the bigger businesses (ie. Citizens Bank, Boneyard) for money to sponsor fireworks. Carolyn shared that Human Concerns is hosting a Divine Mercy workshop/mental health presentation on 4/17 at St. Theresa at 6:30pm, but the later emailed that the event was cancelled due to the inability to get a therapist scheduled for the event.
- **Festival Mass:** This item had been tabled until 2023 for discussion to coordinate with 2023 Festival. The Festival Committee has met (in March) and is beginning the planning for this year's event. Discussion was had regarding the outdoor mass, and it was agreed to keep it in the church. Outdoor mass requires a lot of set up and allows for distractions, taking away from the sanctity of mass.
- **Joint PC meeting:** St James will be hosting a joint Pastoral Council meeting with St Theresa and St Peter next month, Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Activity Center. Rick Murphy had graciously offered to provide a catered meal. This allows the councils to get acquainted/welcome our new Church Cluster arrangement for the coming liturgical year and future. Plan to arrive 6:45 – 7. Fr Jordan will as Fr Stephen to give a speech.
- **Other:** Carolyn went to the Deanery. She shared that each parish should have 2 people attend. They talked about activities they were doing in the parish; Eucharistic Congress will take place on Saturday 6/10 at Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center in St. Francis. St Joe's is doing a procession of the eucharist in Big Bend will planned stops at 4 people's homes. Formed is a resource for access to videos/info. St Jerome's has 24/7 adoration, 365 days/year. There was discussion of creating a cemetery for the unborn. There is trivia night w/ the priest hosting a spaghetti dinner. Pete Burds is good resource on how to engage youth (just informed he is

moving to MN). Eucharistic revival is a national initiative. There was discussion of St James doing a eucharistic procession to the 3 churches in September. **ACTION:** Contact the Police Dept to see if it is feasible.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Finance Report:** Deacon Rob was not present but will be sharing in the bulletin that we are down in monthly giving. There is not a big push this year due to the upcoming capital campaign.
- **Election of Pastoral Council members for 2023-2026-**It is time to start the process of identifying parishioners who would like to join our parish council for a 3-year term beginning July 2023. In review of the church manual, it is stated the council chair should establish a temporary committee to call forth new leadership from the parish. This committee is not restricted to council members, rather it can include past council members and interested parishioners. The responsibilities of this committee are: 1. Educate and inform parishioners regarding the importance of parish leadership and the role of pastoral and finance councils. 2. Conduct a nomination process for the pastoral council. 3. Conduct a nominee gathering for the those interested in serving on the council. 4. Conduct an election or discernment process. 5. Announce the results of the election or discernment process, and 6. Invite new members of the council to the June meeting. We are a small parish and operate with much less formality regarding this process. However, we need to begin with a Bulletin/pulpit announcement to identify interested parishioners. Jessie and Laverne's positions are up. They are both still deciding if they will continue. Council members are able to be on for two 3-year terms. **ACTION:** Jim to put something in the bulletin next week, after Easter.
- **Activity Center Sound System Upgrade:** Discussion regarding the poor quality of the current sound system in the Activity Center. This is a concern as the parish hosts speaking events as well as family movie night. There was also discussion about the sound system in the church, near the choir, needing an upgrade. It was suggested that we get the price for a first-class system and then taper back. **ACTION:** Fr Jordan will have his friend's business come and look at it/give quote/give options. We anticipate it will be costly.
- **Land:** There was a brief discussion on the potential selling of the 12-acre parcel of land near the subdivision. Fr Jordan shared that this is not on the front burner, but they are starting to look at options.
- **Bulletins:** We ran out of bulletins again last week (Palm Sunday). During the meeting, Fr. Jordan emailed Renee and Deacon Rob to ensure that more are ordered.

**Closing Prayer:** Chad Stovern

NEXT Pastoral Council meeting: **Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:45pm** in the Activity Center. This will be a joint meeting with St. Theresa and St. Peter, to include a meal.

**Opening Prayer (next meeting):** Paul Smyczek

**Closing Prayer (next meeting):** Jenni McFayden

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**

Starting in June, St James Pastoral Council will move to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. This will start on June 6/22/23 at 6:30.

## St. James Parish Council Meeting Agenda

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*"Come-Seek-Grow-Share"*

**Attendees:** Fr Jordan, Jim Cox (Chair), Rick Murphy (Trustee), Jenni McFadyen, Laverne Wrasman, Carolyn Evers, Jessie Brovold, Karen Preuss (Sec), John Barrette, Mary Ann Karas, Chad Stovern (Chair-elect), Paul Smyczek (Trustee Secretary)

**Excused:**

**\*Opening Prayer:** John Barrette

### **\*Approval of March Meeting Minutes and Additions to Agenda**

#### **● - Old Business-**

- **Stewardship and Capital Campaign: ACTION:** What has been done to revive this committee? Bulletin announcement looking for committee members?
- **New Members:** It would be nice to receive a monthly report on all new members received at St. James. We have 39 new members/families added to the roles since June 2022 when Fr. Jordan arrived.
- **Committee Reports:** Are there any matters to be discussed regarding committee activity? See attached committee reports, or liaisons should bring these up in discussion at this time.
- **Hospitality:** The discussion in March was that this goes hand in hand with Stewardship. It would be Fr. Jordan's dream to serve hot ham/rolls after mass every Sunday. Or, possibly we have a "New Member Sunday" where we welcome all new members, quarterly? ?? and serve food. Rick Murphy and Paul Smyczek were going to take the lead on this and work with Chad. Jim will work on a question card to help gather member information.
- **Joint PC meeting with St Theresa's, hosted by St James PC:** Rick Murphy has graciously offered to provide a catered meal and host St Theresa, with an invite to St. Peter's to join together and get acquainted/welcome our new Church Cluster arrangement for the coming liturgical year and future.
- **Festival Mass:** Tabled until 2023 for discussion to coordinate with 2023 Festival. The Festival committee has met (in March) and is beginning the planning for this year's event.

#### **● NEW BUSINESS**

- **Finance Report:** Deacon Rob
- **Election of Pastoral Council members for 2023-2026-**It is time to start the process of identifying parishioners who would like to join our parish council for a 3-year term beginning July 2023. In review of the church manual, it is stated the council chair should establish a temporary committee to call forth new leadership from the parish. This committee is not restricted to council members, rather it can include past council members and interested parishioners. The responsibilities of this committee are: 1. Educate and inform parishioners regarding the importance of parish leadership and the role of pastoral and finance councils. 2. Conduct a nomination process for the pastoral council. 3. Conduct a nominee gathering for the those interested in serving on the council. 4. Conduct an election or discernment process. 5. Announce the results of the election or discernment process, and 6. Invite new members of the council to the June meeting. **We are a small parish and operate with much less formality regarding this process.** However, we need to begin with a Bulletin/pulpit announcement to identify interested parishioner's.
- **Activity Center Sound System Upgrade:** I was able to attend the Mother Theresa movie, Movie Night where Encanto was shown, and a speaking event about Music and the Liturgy. These events were hosted in the Activity Center. I would give the current sound system a #1 rating (on a 10 point scale with 10 being the very best). The only reason I give it a 1 is because there is some sound coming from the speakers, but it is difficult to hear clearly. IF we are going to host events, such as special movies, family movie nights, speakers, etc. it is necessary to make the event enjoyable for all who attend, or they will not attend. It does a disservice to the groups putting on these events when you can't understand the audio or hear clearly the speaker. I personally was dissatisfied with the ability to hear and understand the sound at ALL of These events. Should we upgrade this system, and if so, how should we go about it? Should this item be sent to Building and Grounds for consideration, with a recommendation from us?

- **Additions to agenda:**

**Closing Prayer: Chad Stovern**

**NEXT Pastoral COUNCIL MEETING: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 6:30-8:00 p.m. Room 7 Parish Center**

**Opening Prayer (next meeting): Paul Smyczek**

**Closing Prayer (next meeting): Jenni McFayden**