# Pastoral Council Minutes May 10, 2022

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Mimi. A prayer asking for God to support the efforts of the parish council.

# Question of the week: During this Easter season, how will you sustain the spiritual momentum that began during Lent?

Sandra joined The Giving Garden ministry to help harvest veggies and fruits for SVDP and shut ins, and she has found it very rewarding. As well as doing reflections with her sisters and friends around the country. Phill has been talking about the symbol of candles and how it can keep the momentum and topic as something to discuss around the dinner table. They started with a candle for Ukraine.

## Global Synod (2021-2023) - Stephen Sheahan

- Stephen gave the council a brief update on the Synod as it finished up in April
- A report was submitted to the Archdiocese and a copy was sent to all of the council members
- A brief report will be published online and in the bulletin
- Stephen then talks about how we can continue to sustain synodality moving forward. This includes making the council and our meetings highly transparent. Parishioners need to be able to come to us with questions and concerns so that we can then bring those concerns to the pastor.
- The process of the Synod was not just about giving a report, but fostering dreams and ideas to move forward together as a local community and as the whole church.
- The conclusions of both Spanish and English listening sessions were generally about the same. Both communities want to have more opportunities to come together.

### Ministries Update on Website - Lia Armistead

- Lia has been redesigning Ministry pages to make them more attractive and easy on the eyes
- She has also been working on adding contact information for each ministry, as all ministry leaders approved that being published on the web
- Lia is planning a mandatory meeting for ministry leaders to learn about new was of communication that will be easier for them to communicate with their members, and for STA to communicate with ministries. This meeting will most likely take place when the new pastor starts.

### Return of the Donut Ministry – Sandra Long

- Donations are making this ministry's comeback possible. It is self-funded by parishioners, and there are high hopes for more donations over the summer. It will officially come back in September when parishioners will be back from summer vacations.
- For the first few weekends, there will be 15 dozen donuts available. There will be more, or less, purchased after that depending how it goes. Left over donuts will remain available before the 2PM Mass.

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### Finance Update – John Doolen

- Working on fiscal budget at the next few finance council meetings and it will be posted sometime in early June on the web and in the bulletin.
- Offertory is still down compared to 2018/2019 fiscal year
  - If this is the new normal, it will be a challenge to do anything other than day to day function at the church
- Fixing AC units for the whole building
  - Approved by Arch Atl to do so
    - 1/3 of the cost needs to come from the parish and the rest will come from Arch Atl
- Signs are an issue with Alpharetta
  - Ministries are not able to put signs up without permission
  - The only signs that are approved are the two at the entrance of the church.
    Those approvals need to go through John Doolen and Lia Armistead
- John discusses the idea of adding a soccer field for our parishioner and local community to our property.
  - Stephen asks why this is a priority or how this could benefit us
    - The purpose is that new families will come to have their children play soccer on our campus and will hopefully join our Parish
  - Lots of questions about possibilities
    - This property can be rented out when it is not soccer season, bringing in more money for the parish
    - Soccer teams will be Catholic Metro Sports
      - All money goes to them; however, the idea is for families in the local areas to come to our campus.
    - Priority will be given to Parishioners for soccer registration
    - No lights
  - Discussion on whether this will be a good idea
    - Ed believes that we need to make the campus a draw because currently we are not bringing in many new families
    - John would not want to spend money if there is no return
  - Stephen thinks we need a plan that shows data and proves that this is a reasonable decision that will be beneficial for our parish
  - We need to know who will be part of this committee and needs approval by future pastor
- John then goes over the timeline and schedule for the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on June 4 and 5

## **Commissions Update - All**

- Altar servers are joining More Altar serving training to come
- Small Faith focused on the Synod for the last month

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- Liturgy main change is the altar servers coming back
- Music participating in the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup>
- Teen Ministry- Ed introduced himself to Ashley, Whiteville yard sale went well
  - Request for the 2<sup>nd</sup> collections See if the Whitesville trip can have access to the last 2<sup>nd</sup> collection funds that were not used
    - Bring this request to the finance council
    - Ed and John will talk more about it
- Wild goose ends this week it was a great turn out and great engagement
  - Alpha to come back in the fall
    - Giving garden is doing exceedingly well. Providing fresh vegetables and herbs to those receiving help from our food pantry.

#### Action Items - All

- Invite Ashley Diaz to June Meeting Mimi Madrid
- Read Synod Report All
- Think about ways we, as a council, can lead by example in promoting synodality and transparency in our functioning All