

**THE PARISH OF ST. EUGENE PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES – [February 13, 2023]**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Fr. Pat Cahill; Deacon John Langlois; Rick Lober (Chair, 6/24); Ashley Torres (Vice-Chair, 6/23); Shawna Hoffert (Sec, 6/25); Buster Brown (6/25); Raul Cervantes (6/23); James Greene (6/24); Charles James (6/25); Ed Korte (6/24);

**NOT PRESENT:** Dcn Mike Zboyovski; Mechelle Kobar; Jesus Gamez (6/24); Pat Irmien (6/24); Laura Morales (6/25)

**GUESTS:** Sue Koester, Bill Maloney, Matt Yetter

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- Meeting was called to order at 6:35p and an opening prayer was said by Fr Pat.
  - January Minutes were approved. (Ed, Buster motioned to approve).
  
  - Latest update regarding Perpetual Adoration Chapel – Fr. Pat

Open 8am-8pm; steady stream of people utilizing chapel, fulfilling a need. Looking to place a gravel walkway for the front door because of the mud (Raul/Rick). James concerned that groups using space for “out-loud” meetings/rosaries, etc. could disturb someone who is there for a private devotion. Fr Pat expressed similar concern about people leaving pamphlets, etc., in the space. Discussed scheduling groups and posting notices; book currently available for sign-up to use. Security team is working to continue to make site safe and secure.

- Adult Confirmation class during Lent – Fr. Pat

Sundays Feb 26 – March 26<sup>th</sup>, 10:15-11:15am Fr Pat will teach confirmation class for adults;  
Confirmation will be Apr 8<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm at the Easter Vigil

Probably will live-stream class (YouTube parish channel, website) so it can be recorded and viewed later; people could attend virtually if necessary; hopefully will be simultaneously translated (Walkyria)

Ed asked that Fr Pat make a push to really emphasize the class at the altar, in announcements

- Report on suggested Small Christian Communities Dinner Social Outreach – Peter Olynick

Follow-up on initial suggestions from last month (see last month’s notes)

Several dates proposed for advertising in order to start Apr-Sep and Oct-Mar phases of groups’ meetings

Backup is Peter’s wife, Mary Tantillo, but need a succession plan in place

Administrator (Peter) would help form the groups maybe based on things like zip code, language preference, age, families w/similarly aged children, lunch/brunch option for those who don’t drive well at night, singles not just couples, how long established in the parish, etc.

The priests at St Peter’s tried to attend each group at least once (maybe Deacons too)

Rick suggested a one-year f/u; could be worked in to a welcoming ministry at some point to help newcomers meet other parishioners

Rick offered a motion for the parish council to support this group’s creation; Ashley seconded; motion passed

Recommended having a table for each mass after the announcement is made so people may sign up

- Report on current Bereavement Ministry – Ginny Raviotta

Started in 2012 w/the Trembleys; Ginny took over in Feb 2021

Work in progress to return to pre-Covid arrangements; Fr Pat has been closely involved

Currently has 10 active members, meet 7pm in parlor

Attend funerals, help set up, support the Deacons, orient the family about the logistics, calm nerves; write sympathy cards to families, stay in touch with people who don't seem to have much family, have limited family support

In August 2022, re-started offering food receptions after the service

Support group started in January 2023, two meetings so far (1<sup>st</sup> had 11 members, last meeting had 4); peer support, listening, (not therapy); referrals made to Four Seasons Bereavement Counseling if the family seems to need more support

Hope for the Holidays, annual event w/priests and Deacons, had a memory table for family to bring photos/mementos as a way to remember the deceased at holiday time

Future plans: annual education for grief ministers w/Four Seasons; maybe a broader parish-wide education (could be built in to the Adult Education Ministry); desire to purchase written materials for the bereaved

Website is pretty up to date, maybe a year ago; rec checking w/Mechelle for any changes

Hispanic counter-part has not been connected (the Diocese has a central ministry, Dcn John will try to connect them with our ministry)

- Report on status of Lector Ministry – Matt Yetter

Expectation was for annual training and recruitment; need the most-current list of volunteers; need to schedule a training for all current lectors and people interested (esp youth)

The 9am Mass has plenty of volunteers, but the other Masses are under-supported

Not a good listing of the Spanish-speaking lectors/7:30 Mass – Matt would like a list

Feedback has been that the schedule for ministers is only a month out (not far enough) and that some lectors are over-scheduled, others under-scheduled

Some lectors expressed desire for prepping better when the readings include multiple options

Would like to get the “huddle” meeting back together about 5min prior to the Mass in the Sacristy

Working w/Tracey Jedd (DRE) for students to have an opportunity to see and try-out some of the ministries

Rick suggested that the chairs of these ministries should take a more active role in keeping the lists updated, the schedules fair, etc., rather than relying on Mechelle to take on these tasks

- Preliminary proposal of “Walking with Moms in Need” ministry – Mary Head/Karen Bradley (not present)

Would the parish be interested in getting involved with this program? a Respect Life ministry

USCB and Walking w/Moms in Need websites have resources and identify local level deficiencies so the parish can work on strengthening these hurting areas within the community

Diocesan level is working to implement this within every parish ideally

Sue rec that the chair of Respect Life Ministry (Debbie Waddams) would be umbrella over these smaller groups

- Council reports regarding contacts with Commission ministries – Council Members

INACTIVE MINISTRIES/GROUPS: Rick motioned, Buster seconded to list inactive vs defunct ministries, remove from/clean-up website, look for new chairs during a ministry fair for groups

Dcn John wants to make sure that important ministries/groups are not “killed” so we leave doors open for re-starting these ministries (Such as Campus Life Ministry)

Charles discussed possible approach for addressing lack of outreach (at Diocesan and Parish level) to UNCA students; Fr Pat would like to hold a monthly Mass in the “grotto” as has been done previously

No Diocesan support for Campus Life Ministry at UNCA now

EDUCATION & FORMATION COMMISSION REPORT – Dcn John presented; see handout

ENERGY AND SOUND REPORT – Rick/Buster presented; see handout

- Peace, Justice & Care of Creation Ministry Update – Sue Koesters/Bill Maloney

Stations of the Cross in the gardens Sat March 25<sup>th</sup> around 11am; Racial Equity group will hold a Stations Mar 17<sup>th</sup> at noon in St Eugene's sanctuary (bilingual); trying to organize a youth Stations on a Monday evening; St Margaret Mary is holding the larger festival Passion and the Death

Rice Bowls going out this next Sunday

Sisters of Mercy called about trying to do some advocacy in the Diocese about the death penalty

Domestic Violence group is beginning to meet

Sue had a question about child-care because needed for some of the educational programs they are planning

- Suggestion Box. New suggestions? – Shawna

1. "Please place the ministry banners under the "This Is St Eugene" sign in the social hall" – Sarah Reincke; Fr Pat wants to do this
2. Paraphrased: "Is tithing still occurring at St Eugene's? Can we revive the practice of announcing our recipient at every mass?..." Chris Cicotello; we used to announce who was given the 10% of our tithe each week back to the community (roughly \$60,000/yr); it's in the bulletin and is being disbursed quarterly; Karen Bradley is working w/Fr Pat on a more current list; thank you notes Fr Pat places on the bulletin board; Fr Pat will consider going back to announcement

- Other Business or Upcoming events

Parents-morning-out exploded and has waiting lists; causing some issues with our education programs because there isn't care, not enough volunteers, and there doesn't seem to be a list of volunteers

Children's Church – Ashley requested that this return (used to be every Sunday during school-year)

PARISH LIFE REPORT – Next meeting (Raul/Ashley)

EVANGELIZATION & COMMUNICATION – Next meeting (Ed/Dcn Mike)

Fr Pat is working w/Chris Ames on a master plan for the campus now that we own one whole side of Culvern St  
Bernie did a deep dive on the school/property/church finances; wants to give parishioners an idea of a total cost and a total number of years to get to the "master plan"

What does a complete Parish campus look like? What would this cost? How would our Sanctuary space be improved?  
Need input from parish members; who would the experts be that would lead this vision?

James noted that a column in the bulletin "From the Rector" to the congregation so we get to know what Fr Pat is thinking about, get to know him better

- Closing Prayer was said by Fr Pat and meeting was adjourned at 8:45p.
- Next meeting: Will be on March 13th at 6:30p in ACS social area.

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Shawna Hoffert. *If you have any questions or need additional information about anything on the minutes, please reach out to a Parish Council member. All Parish Council members' information is posted on the wall in the Fellowship Hall.*