

Corpus Christi Parish
Parish Council Meeting
September 19th, 2023

In Attendance: Greg Derner, Jen Derickson, David Hill, Mike Kraus, Derrick Lebryk, Laurie Wiley, Marvin Winkeler. New member – Annette Whitaker

Ex-Officio in Attendance: Neil Jansen, Michele Stroot; Fr. Paul Wienhoff

Excused: Sarah Gass, Sheila Haar-Siegel, Bill Krouse, Chris Stuhldreher

Ex-Officio Excused:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. with Fr. Paul leading the Council in prayer.

Minutes of last meeting: No corrections noted. Laurie Wiley motioned for acceptance, seconded by Greg Derner. Motion carried.

Finance

Finance meeting has not been held since July. The outstanding building loan has been paid off this past month. Currently the Parish is debt-free. Some discrepancies were identified with the WeShare collection of the Capital Campaign monies. This was discovered during a letter campaign inquiring about outstanding pledges, and these discrepancies have been addressed.

Liturgical

RCIA – No candidates currently. The program is potentially being renamed “Order of Christian Initiation” pending Vatican approval.

Fall Adult Education – At Corpus Christi, Diane Diekemper and Annette Whitaker are working on getting small groups together using the Matthew Kelly book “Beautiful Eucharist”, appropriate during this 3-year program of Eucharistic revival called for by the USCCB. Same program for St. Joseph.

UNBOUND - Fr. Paul will be absent the weekend of October 7/8. Fr. Knab will cover all Masses and speak on Unbound.

Time, Talent & Treasure weekend – netted few new Ministry volunteers. No retraining currently. Will reduce the number of Communion ministers for 4:30 PM Mass due to shortage of ministers.

All Saints – No 8 AM Mass. 7 PM at Corpus Christi; 12:10 PM at St. Joseph.

Thanksgiving – no special Mass; just regular daily Mass.

Immaculate Conception – No 8 AM Mass. 12:10 PM on Friday at St. Joseph. Vigil Mass at 7 PM on Thursday at Corpus Christi (live stream).

Christmas Schedule - Will be addressed hard with an Advent Flyer. With Christmas falling on Monday (and New Years), there will be a 3 PM (CC), 5 PM (SJ) and 10 PM (CC) Masses on Christmas Eve. Only a 9 AM Mass on Christmas Day (CC). New Year’s Holy Day falls out this year but will have a 9 AM Mass at Corpus Christi.

OTHER “Franciscan at Home” was offered by Diocese, but we are not renewing membership. The program “FORMED.ORG” was discussed about worth of investment. Committee members are going to review further (\$1000 cost) before making recommendation to the Finance and Parish Councils.

Pastoral/Social

Partnership Picnic in the Park on Sunday, Sept. 24th. About 110 reservations (15 are kids). Committee is all set. Two kinds of pulled pork, Italian beef, hot dogs, and brats being offered. Men’s Club offering games for the kids.

Looking for the right date (March timeframe) for the Mouse Races for this year. The Ladies' club is looking to have coffee and cookies after Mass in November. The sign-up opportunities are out for the Chicken Dinner in October.

Building and Grounds

Baseboard replacement work in the Parish center is complete. Fall grounds clean-up day will be October 14th. Will focus on trimming and pulling weeds. Possibility of doing a good cleaning of the kitchen prior to the Chicken fry that day.

Youth Ministry – Joseph House hit a highest attendance at 102 students two weeks prior. 87 this week (Sept. 18th). An article on this outreach was published in the online McKendree newspaper. Some concern about the sustainability of this with these escalated numbers. No immediate action yet.

Only had 1 teenage parishioner and friend attend kickoff pizza party. Struggling to find right day in October and how to generate more interest.

Luke 18 invites to 8th graders going out this week.

Communication – No report.

Education

- **PSR** – At 15 students. 4 families with two or more children decided not to enroll this year. Multiple forms of communication were used to advertise. "Finding God" from Loyola Press was chosen at the textbook series going forward, checking most of the boxes. Will use this text next year. Current text is okay, and we didn't have to invest in catechist texts. We use Loyola Press now for 1st Reconciliation/1st Communion textbooks. No Diocesan approved list posted at this time for these sacraments
- **Adult Faith Formation** – Looking for both seekers and leaders. Brenda Bishop has been named to the Diocesan steering committee evaluating RCIA (OCIA) programs.
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word** – averaging 5 to 10 children weekly. 7 teachers in the rotation.
- **Validation for School Assistance** – there are ongoing discussions on what methodology to use when validating a request for Parish tuition assistance and what constitutes being a parishioner. No resolutions at this time

Outreach – No report.

Partnership Plan

- Picnic in the Park – September 24th.
- St. Joseph – Oct. 8th Fall Fest till 2 PM following Mass. Blessing of Pets on October 1st.
- Jen Derickson suggested we drop this from the agenda or perhaps retitile this heading at just Partnership since our original plan seems to be done. The council agreed.

Old Business – None.

New Business –

- Partnership Mass already discussed.

Round the Table

- Mike Kraus shared that the Men’s Club meeting for December will be assisting with the “hanging of the greens”.
- Father indicated we need to still hold a discussion on how to address the Parish deficit.
- Dave Hill reported that there are 385 students at St. Clare. He also proffered that we should advertise “online” giving. Offer a QR code.
- Neil Jansen announced that the Holiday Hilltop will be December 9th and a 1-year-old boy with leukemia has been chosen as the recipient.
- Laurie Wiley broached the topic of fund-raising events. This netted the following suggestions:
 - Scrapbook event (Laurie Wiley)
 - Breakfast with Santa (Laurie Wiley)
 - Food truck event
 - Pickleball court rental in our “gym” (Neil Jansen)
 - Increase hall rental to public (Annette Whitaker)
 - Increased Stewardship (Mike Kraus, Marvin Winkeler)
 - Glow Bingo (Sarah Gass at last meeting)
- Michele Stroot introduced new member – Annette Whitaker who previously served on the Council. She spoke of the Trivia Night coming up on Sept. 30th. Goal is to purchase new AED for the Parish Center. We had a Diocesan inspection of the grounds and one of the things mentioned was the need for an AED in the Parish Center. She shared the Ladies’ Rummage sale netted \$4300. Considered great success.
- Parish Council, Finance Council and Liturgy Committee Christmas party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 19th in the Parish Center beginning at 6:30 PM.

Closing prayer: Led by Jen Derickson at 8:40 P. M.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 21st, 2023, at 7 P.M. at Grooten’s Hall.