

St. Joseph the Worker
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2023

In attendance: Rob Flesher, Rachel Green, Ben Kwedar, Liz Reef, Debbie Shawgo, Grace Ann Thomas, Gavin Davis, Pat Kornfeld, Sr. Judy Pfile, Fr. Joe Molloy

Absent: Jennifer Trapani

Opening prayer was led by Rob Flesher

Parish member group photo and two new member photos.

Fr Joe Updates

- Eucharistic Miracles Display, set for May 13/14. Need Parish Council volunteers to be present with display
 - Would need to be picked up on 5/11 with probably 2 trucks
 - Needs to be picked up during the day
 - Help was offered for set-up
 - Father will get back to everyone with a time
- Mission with 7th and 8th grade faith formation 9/13 and 9/27
 - Father Vahling from SHG can't make it.
 - Kramer Soderberg has written a book "Fill My Cup Lord". Talks about the Eucharist, relates it to sports. Coach's basketball at Millikin.
 - Council agrees that they are interested in exploring this option.
- Parking lot plan/bids update
 - In the process of getting preliminary bids on parking lot drainage
- Fr. is working on getting communication and a list of willing Eucharistic Ministers who would be comfortable giving and consuming the Blood of Christ
 - Fr. would like to start this after Easter
 - Discussion about how some/most do not know whether they should be shaking hands during Sign of Peace
 - Hopefully by next Monday, Fr. Joe will get communication out to Eucharistic Ministers.

New Business

- Review status Parish Council Members child safety training and background checks
- Ben will talk to ID sign company to see how it compares. Ben will also reach out to Watchfire.
 - Little Flower also used Watchfire from Danville
- Discussion/Ideas- Inviting people to write why the Eucharist is important to them. (suggestions from Fr. Joe, think about inviting: Faith Formation students, newly initiated, those who are impaired but still make it a point to attend mass, those who are regular daily mass attendees, etc.)

- Could be in bulletin, on slideshow before/after mass
- Council agrees that this would be a good idea.
- Fr. Joe has a list of some names, Council can add names throughout the year via emailing Fr. Joe
- Discussion about Revive Parishes program to reach Millennials and Gen Z
 - Grace-Ann took 4 hour course titled The Generational Divide
 - How do we get back Millennials and Gen Z back to church
 - Suggestions the course gives
 - Teach more understanding about Redemptive Suffering
 - Q&A sessions, options for anonymous questions
 - Communicating problem with parents
 - Reminder that when you minister keep it personal with their relationship with God
 - Remember how younger generations were raised like increased pressure on what younger people are going to do with their lives
 - How to make Millennials and Gen Z feel safe in church
 - Need for belonging and community for both groups
 - Dynamic greeters and welcome community
 - Welcoming/warm office staff
 - Service oriented projects
 - Need for Millennial (Young Adult Club)
 - Fundraisers, Bread Line for service event and then social hour after, etc.
 - Must communicate not just in the bulletin, but also online, maybe even develop a SJW app
 - Good idea for someone involved in Faith Formation class to take the course as well.
 - Events that would appeal for 25-40 year old's?
 - Council will brainstorm young adult group ideas.
- 2024 Parish Mission
 - Should we have one?
 - Rochester had John Michael Talbot
 - Could have Fr. Nolan? Bishop Kemme (Wichita)?
 - For higher end missions, will need to invite other parishes to join together
 - Council will research Parish Mission ideas
- Saints and the Eucharist Schedule handout were delivered to Pastoral Council Members
- Update on meeting with Stewardship Committee
 - No longer need for Pastoral Council to meet with them