

St. Vincent Parish Pastoral Care Commission Minutes
May 15, 2022

Present: Donna Warner, John Bryan, Martie Bender, Bob Clark, Rachelle Ede, Betsy Busch, Kathie Shoenfelt, Aaron Tripp. Fr. Norm and Deacon Dominic stopped in.

The April 11th meeting was canceled due to poor attendance and no leader.

Opening Prayer: Christ Candle of Hope: *God, our loving Father, you sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, into this world to counter all the forces of evil: sin, suffering and death, and to overcome evil with the force of good; hatred with the power of love, your great love for us in Jesus. Help us never to curse the darkness, but to join with you in bringing your light into this world, the light that is your Son, born of the Virgin Mary, in Bethlehem. Help us to be instruments of your light and love by doing one special act of kindness or by being your special instrument of reconciliation this New Year. May the Christ Candle we light symbolize our desire to bring light into a world of darkness and hope into a world of despair. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

Prayer Shawls: Martie reported on the status of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. A lot of shawls have gone out and It is in need of more shawls. Rachelle asked if there could be an introductory session to help people better understand the Ministry. We discussed options for obtaining more shawls.

Loss and Recovery Ministry: Aaron reported that this ministry is on hold until, hopefully, July when he will have more time to organize it. Both John and Aaron said they would contact Pat Shwarber to see if she might be willing to chair the Loss and Recovery Ministry. They will also ask her if she might be willing to attend this Commission's meetings when Aaron is unavailable.

Prime Timers (55+): Bob reported that he is on the committee to organize the next event which will be an outing to the Rubber Ducks Baseball Team. A date has not yet been set. Details will be published in the Bulletin and on FlockNotes.

Hope and Healing Beyond Addiction: Andy Davis reported to John that Wednesday, August 31st will be National Overdose Awareness Day. Catholic Charities, other agencies and possibly some parishes will be involved. We discussed if we could make our Hope and Healing Beyond Addiction event coincide with this. Betsy will contact Andy to explore this possibility.

Ideas for Future Outreach: We discussed reaching out to the LGBTQ community. Two members shared that their adult children feel alienated from the Catholic Church because of its stance on LGBTQ issues. John reported that the Catholic church will not marry someone who has publicly declared themselves LGBT, but that such people, (men only) can become priests. The Diocese is putting on a workshop in a few weeks about gay and lesbian issues. John told Fr., that he would like to be 1 of the 5 who can attend. Betsy said she would also talk to Fr about attending. Fr. reported that the Diocese has indicated it might like St V's to be a model for its program.

Closing Prayer: *Dear Lord, I say "Yes" to You this day. Whatever You ask of me, I will do. Wherever You lead me, I will go. Give me the grace of complete abandonment to You no matter what You ask. I offer myself to You so that the glorious purpose of my life may be fulfilled. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.*

Next Meeting: June 12, 2022