

St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council  
Tuesday, April 11, 2023  
Church Narthex

Members in attendance: Fr. Michael, Ruth Adamczyk, Marilyn Butler, Ellie Hammond, Bob Mitchell, Pat Rossman and Jean Weaver. Also, in attendance were Trustees: Dennis Collins and Sharon Gierahn.

Not in attendance: Dave Eberle and Bill Greinke

The opening prayer was led by Father Michael at 7:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Myra Fox to accept the March 14, 2023 minutes as read and it was seconded by Jean Weaver.

**Approval of Joint Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Jean Weaver to accept the February 28, 2023 minutes as read and it was seconded by Marilyn Butler.

**Pastor's Report:**

Finance: The PFC is continuing to work on the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

**Building and Grounds:**

- Discussion has begun on the need to get funding together to replace the HVAC ventilation system for the church, as it is 18 years old. We have worked extensively with United Mechanical in the past but will get 2 other bids. The system possibly needs to be replaced as it is rusting out and in constant need of repairs.
- School Plumbing Issue: There was a very unpleasant odor coming from the bathrooms at the school. We had a sewer company come in to fix the issue and the Village of Caledonia also assisted for which we were very grateful. We will pay 11% of the bill.
- There was also discussion on calling a tree removal service to clean up the large broken branches and one tree that needs to be removed. They would also look over the entire SR property to see if there are any trees that need to be pruned.

**Easter Attendance:**

Easter went very well and listed below are the attendance numbers.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Mass time</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Saturday	Mar. 25	4:45p	65
Sunday	Mar. 26	8:00a	120
Sunday	Mar. 27	10:30a	161
Saturday	Apr. 1	4:45p	110
Sunday	Apr. 2	8:00a	151
Sunday	Apr. 2	10:30a	294

Holy Thursday	Apr. 6	7:00p	124
Good Friday	Apr. 7	7:00p	127
Holy Saturday	Apr. 8	8:00p	131
Easter Sunday	Apr. 9	8:00a	235
Easter Sunday	Apr. 9	10:30a	306

### **CHISC Committee Update:**

On Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm there will be a Town Hall meeting regarding the future of Cascia Hall. The Committee met last night and, with the assistance of Michael Laird, there were 4 work groups created regarding this endeavor. Those work groups will look into the following areas: selling the property, remodeling the building for SR use, remodel for outside use, razing the building. The meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> will not be an open discussion rather an introduction of the leaders who will lead each option study group. At this point they will be seeking volunteers for each study group. There will be no streaming of this meeting but if you cannot make it and have a question you may contact the committee at [facilityplan@stritaracine.org](mailto:facilityplan@stritaracine.org). This is a 9 month to 1 year timeline to do the research. A Leadership group has been formed and the members are: Myra Fox, Father Michael, Dennis Collins, Sharon Gierhan and Suzanne Kroes.

### **Liaison Reports:**

Human Concerns Comm: They will meet tomorrow. They will be reviewing the social justice talks and what would be the possibilities for future speakers. The speaker sessions have been very well attended.

Stewardship: Ellie stated that the event planning committee would like to organize movie nights to watch “The Chosen”. They also discussed having kringle-mingles after all masses. Action photos have been taken at some of the SR events and will be uploaded to the SR website. They are also creating a “welcome” bag for all new members which might include food tokens for the Lenten fish fry, oven mitts and so on. A new booklet (Whisper in the Pews) was put in the kiosk on how to help your child in understanding the mass. This booklet was distributed to the school and CCD students. Flyers were distributed at the Lenten Fish Fry with a list of upcoming events. The Blood of Christ is being distributed at mass once again and it went over very well on the Easter weekend.

Finance: Bob Mitchell reported that the Board of Trustees for Siena School was not able to lower our assessment for this upcoming year. The BOT is made up of all priests from the area. The priests in Racine are tired of the constant struggle with Siena. Father Ricardo, from Sacred Heart will be moving in June and as he is the leader of the Racine Deanery for priests that position will be open. Brenda White’s replacement has been chosen but not announced as yet. It was approved that we could get a couple of credit cards readers for the festival. The parish will have a special collection once a year to support the Racine Interfaith Coalition. Notices will be put in our bulletin to let parishioners know the activities of this group. Religious Ed gave the PFC their wish list that includes walkie talkies and white boards.

Religious Ed & Formation: Ruth reported on recent school meetings. The school parents and Rel. Ed’s big question is how do we get more families to attend any of the events. Do we offer babysitting or change the time of events? There will be another Faith Family night on May 13. Vacation bible school starts right after the end of the school year. Jenny Wiesensel would like to

start a Right to Life mission, where we would bring a meal to an expectant mother on the feast of the Visitation. She would also like to start a preschool playground group that would meet once a month on the playground and let the kids play. They would get the opportunity to meet other parents prior to their kids going to school and have some adult conversation. Rachel Kroes is looking at bringing mission trips back. High school kids will be going to Fond du Lac to help with some painting and fixing of items. Middle school kids will be staying in Racine to help people out. New bleachers are being purchased for the gym as the ones we have now are quite old and need repair. Zach Prideaux said he got his high school kids to come in and help with the tables and chairs for our fish fry but he would love to get the parents involved in both the parish and school. Maybe have a parish potluck to bring everyone together.

Festival: Meeting this Saturday – still aiming for a soft opening on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Planning Committee: It was decided to send out survey forms rather than have focus groups.

**New/Old Business:**

Dennis and Sharon will handle the Discernment process and Pat will collect the nomination forms on May 1 and schedule the calling with other PPC members.

The rocker in the south transept is there for anyone to use especially for those who may have a child that needs soothing.

**Upcoming PPC Dates:**

Tuesday, May 2, 2023  
Tuesday, June 13, 2023  
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

\*\*\* Our next PPC meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 2 as Father Michael will be attending the Spring assembly for priests on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

The closing prayer was led by Father Michael at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Rossman  
Secretary  
St. Rita Parish - Parish Pastoral Council