

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Wednesday, December 20th, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Harrison. Father led the opening prayer.

Members present were Fr. Harrison, Jeff Greisen, Jackie Herink, Teena Jones, Don Strecker and Margie Zarek. John Beller was absent.

A motion was made by Margie Zarek and seconded by Jackie Herink to approve the meeting agenda.

A motion was made by Jeff Greisen and seconded by Don Strecker to approve the minutes from the May and June Parish Council meetings.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Kathy Steiner reported. Two sizable donations were made to the school in November. Now that the four Columbus Catholic Schools operate under one umbrella our church writes a check each month to the Scotus/Columbus Catholic Schools fund. All school expenses including staff salaries, curriculum materials, etc. are now paid through this fund. PRE stipends were paid to PRE teachers and aides in November.

PRE – A written report was submitted by Lori Olson. Our parish recently received a \$500 grant from The Catholic Futures Foundation of Northeast Nebraska. The grant will be used for Vacation Bible School expenses.

St. Anthony School Board – No report.

Maintenance – Jeff Greisen will contact Mark Bierman to see if concrete can be poured in front of the elevator door during the winter months and/or when this can be done. There were no new issues to discuss.

Pastor's Comments – The final two art pieces have been installed in the Adoration Chapel so the Adoration Chapel is ready for use. This renovation is the result of countless hours of volunteer labor and we appreciate all of the volunteers who donated their time and talents to complete this project.

Evangelization – No report.

New Business

Parish Council (JOF). Father met recently with the Journey of Faith Coordinator from the Archdiocese to discuss plans to merge bulletins, parish councils, etc. within our tri-parish family. Father has decided that each of our three parishes will keep their own Parish Council/Leadership Council as each parish has different needs. Each parish will also keep their own Finance Committee. Since we already publicize announcements and information across our tri-parish family, Father hopes to develop a combined bulletin in the future that will encompass all three parishes.

Festival Committee - Lori Olson, Frances Veseth and Kathy Steiner will co-chair the Fall Festival this year. The festival committee will meet in January to start planning for the 2024 festival.

Security – Father’s House/Church Office – In light of the recent tragedy in the Ft. Calhoun community, the Knights of Columbus have discussed the safety of our priests and church staff. A concern was shared that the front door of the church office remains unlocked throughout the day. Father shared that he feels safe in his house and that he keeps the doors locked. These topics will continue to be discussed. Possible solutions may include a security system at the church office that is similar to what is already in place at the school, motion lights at the rectory, a Ring doorbell with video, etc.

Salt & Clearing Sidewalks – Father will talk with Mike Steiner to make sure there are containers of sand/salt by all of the church entrances.

Time and Talent Sheets – The Time and Talent sheets have been revised and will be mailed out to parishioners in January.

Meeting Schedule for 2024 – Parish Council will meet every other month in 2024 starting in January. Meetings will be moved to Thursday evenings.

The next meeting will be January 18th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment - The closing prayer was led by Fr. Harrison.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Herink
Secretary