**ANNUNCIATION**

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**MINUTES 11/9/2022**

Present: Susan Friloux, Lisa Kerby, Maria Padron, Chad Thomas, Susan Allgood, Cherie Labat, Kevin Presswood, Jackie Bordon, Pete Tortorici, Giles McGillick, Greg Jones and Fr. Jeffrey Waldrep,

Unable to Attend: Alicia Barclay, Mike Hainsey

Fr. Jeffrey lead the opening prayer.

The minutes from September 14, 2022, meeting was reviewed, with a slight change of a wrong date mentioned in the beginning.

The Council looked at an “Historical Operating Income and Expense Summary Analysis” for the end of the budget year starting in 2015 – 2022 for the Parish.

Average Monthly Income (% are the difference from precious year):

 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

$47,605 $49,661 $46,237 $52,825 $55,055 $53,680 $51,615 $55,103

 -0.8% 4.3% -6.9% 14.2% 4.2% -2.5% -3.8% 6.8%

Average Monthly Expenses:

 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

$37,108 $36,202 $38,023 $35,198 $35,852 $34.924 $35,447 $38.223

Average Excess (Deficit) (% are the difference from the previous year):

 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

$10,498 $13,459 $8,214 $17,627 $19,203 $18,757 $16,168 $16,660

 11.9% 28.2% -39% 114.6% 8.9% -2.3% -13.8% 3.0%

Take away is that in 2017-2018 there was a change in administration resulting in income and expense variations. In 2020 was when COVID lock downs and cutbacks took place. In 2021-2022 is when people started getting re-engaged.

The Council also viewed a break-down of the past three months of income and expenses from June 30, 2022 – September 30, 2022. It was noted -

Income for Three Months Presently Income for same Three Months Last Year

$147,925.60 $148,224.49

Expenses of Three Months Presently Expenses for same Three Months Last Year

$139,910.01 $125, 182.32

Take away is that income is slightly down, and expenses are up. The Council felt that things are going to balance themselves out as we get end of the end of the year one time offerings

Old Business.

* The Council talked about how impressive the renovation of the front chapel doors turned out (costs around $1,300).
* The lighting system in the back parking lot should be completed in the next couple of weeks (costs around $20,000).
* The architect is finalizing the construction drawings for the Columbarium. The Council is forming a “Community Involvement Committee” to look at how our parish can be more present in the community and community events.
* A committee is being formed under Susan Allgood’s leadership to provide baby and wedding showers for parishioners and base families that come to our Parish.

New Business. The Council discussed what were the best times for the Christmas services this year. Everyone liked the idea of the 5:30 children’s Christmas vigil mass. The Council was unsure about whether the later mass should be at 9:00 pm or 10:00 pm. It was decided that we should ask the choir what their preference was. It was noted that families have a Christmas Vigil Meal, and they could then be free to do the 9:00 pm or 10:00 pm mass. It was decided that 10:00 am on Sunday would be the only Sunday Mass on Christmas Day this year.

In light of our Mission, Vision and Priorities statements, the Council took time to look at our 2nd Vision challenge - “Catholic Knowledge”. Here we were looking at across the age groups how can we continue to grow in knowledge of our Catholic Faith, by communicating, connecting and cultivating. The Council reflected on:

1. How does the Parish live out it’s priority of “Communicating” our “Catholic Faith”.

The Council felt that the Parish’s five bible study groups were doing a great job. Those who have youth in our Religious Education Program between the Masses and with CYO talked about how much their children love to attend. The Council felt that the youth advisors are doing a wonderful job communicating through Facebook what the youth are doing each week. The Council felt the “Formed” program was a great asset in helping adults grow in their faith.

2. What are some things the Parish could work on in “Communication” our “Catholic Faith”

It was suggested that we advertise the “Formed” opportunity in the weekly Newsletter. The Council liked the card in the pews that advertise the online opportunities but felt that the Mission/Vision/Priorities should be on the back side of the card. Most specifically for the youth, it was suggested that we have an outside person come talk about as Catholics how our youth should deal with issue of drugs.

3. How does the Parish live out it’s priority of “Connecting” our “Catholic Faith”

Getting people to get involved with growing/connecting with their Catholic Faith is hard. Again, it was brought up that putting “Formed” online opportunity in weekly newsletter would be helpful. It was suggested that the Parish offer a Wednesday opportunity for Adult Education, maybe once a Month, to help adults grow in their faith. It was suggested that the Parish screen blogs and/or podcasts to encourage parishioners to follow.

4. How do we live out the priority of “Cultivating” our “Catholic Faith”

Here the issue is how does the Parish cultivate an environment to grow in our Catholic Faith so the average Catholic can defend their faith when questioned by others. It was suggested that a Wednesday night Adult Education opportunity be opened to deal with topics like is covered in RCIA sessions or even do some type of Apologetics Class. It was mentioned that it is helpful in Fr. Jeffrey’s homilies how he takes time to give the context of the scripture reading and this helps cultivate a comfort with what the scriptures are saying. It was suggested that a yearly Parish Mission would be a great way to help us grow in our faith. Chad Thomas is going to work on finding some Mission speakers.

The Council then moved to talk about new projects -

* It was brought up that there was an excitement about forming an Altar Guild that would care for the two Churches once a month. The Council was excited and supportive of this effort.
* Fr. Jeffrey brought up that almost ½ of the light bulbs in the church are out. He would like to move everything to LED lighting. We have a bid being composed to upgrade our lighting system to include all LED lighting.
* It was mentioned that we did not pass city inspection of our Vent-A-Hood above the oven in the Activity Center. That is going to be replaced soon at cost of $4,500.
* Lastly, there was a concern that there was no fire extinguisher close to the altar. It was feared that a candle could be knocked over and be a problem. Two small fire extinguishers have been placed under two front pews on each side.

Other concerns. Chad Thomas brought up that he was at a presentation down by the Executive Director of Homeland Security who is willing to come to Schools and Churches to offer a free risk security assessment. Also, this group is aware of grants that can be given for risk security assessment. They have a staff that will assist Parishes in grant writing. This would all be free of charge. It was suggested that we contact this representative.

It was decided that instead of meeting quarterly that the Council wants to meet every two months. The next meeting date is January 11, 2022.

Lisa Kerby volunteered in the future to be the secretary of the Council and take the minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fr. Jeffrey Waldrep