

September 5, 2023, 6:00-7:00pm. Parish Office Basement



Attendance: Fr. Michael, Fr. Loi, Lorna Vertrees, Lou Edmondson, Cheri Ellis-Reeves, Jordan Cofer, Greg Schrecke

Agenda Overview and Prayer Requests - Lorna

Opening Prayer and Pastor's Notes - Father Michael: Personnel transitions: Laurie is doing great; Fabiola has taken over some of Dean's previous duties and that is going well. Dean assists with Mass on Sundays; Bill Clark has taken over assisting on Saturdays. People are now seeing Fr. Chuck more often and that has been well received. The Hispanic community will have another transition: We have two priests coming to the archdiocese. They are arriving earlier than planned, but very welcome. Fr. Michael is starting year 4, and this will be the 4th priest the Hispanic community has had during that time. They have been through many changes but are thriving.

Key Topics for Parish Pastoral Council -

Community Picnic overview and future of the picnic. Great turnout, very successful but haven't heard official numbers. The committee needs new blood because most members have been on for four years now and they would like more/new help. This event was previously driven by the school (Fall Festival). Required school parents to volunteer. The head of PTO used to run it, ask them to be more involved? About half of the proceeds from the picnic go to the school. Lou suggested seeing if committee chairs can work a booth or designate them to get volunteers.

Year of Parish Eucharistic Revival (June 2023 - July 2024) and 2024 National Eucharistic Congress (July 2024 in Indianapolis, IN). September 21st 6:30 in RTR is a parish info meeting regarding the Eucharistic Congress. The goal of the revival is to get Catholics reenergized about the Eucharist. It will have excellent speakers and a great component to offer fresh ideas on evangelization and how to approach people.

2024 Stewardship campaign: The stewardship committee is starting Sept. 14th to revise the booklet and get the new campaign rolling. The big question is if we should delay the start since the fiscal year doesn't start until July- instead of January roll out, should we do a big push in summer?

Finance discussions: Annual Accountability report is forthcoming. The focus is on getting teachers comparable pay to public school salary and to meet the needs of inflation. Profit down from previous year, but the need was so great to keep enrollment high and standard of education on par. Enrollment is 456 students. Tuition stayed the same, but since there was an increase in students, the cash flow will also increase. Security on the campus has received many enhancements. The school itself has room, but we face challenges seeing certain grade levels at capacity. Less students are leaving after fifth grade than before.

Additional Parish Pastoral Council Chair Reports

Faith Formation - Lou Olivia Dvorjak's Report: HSYM Confirmation: 26 candidates, 48 registered for HSYM. More likely to come because some aren't registered yet. Spiritual Apologetics study with 15 students in it. Also has a young adult group with most participants in their 20s. 9th grade retreat will be on Sept 23rd and 26 students will attend. Sr. Augusta's Report: FFF is underway with 34 families registered. OCIA has changed to a year-round program and 10 people have continued to meet across the summer. A new class will begin Sept 18 with those

candidates entering the church on Easter 2025. There is an OCIA for children as well- 10 children are registered. Sr. Augusta and Dean Sears have a study going-Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible: two sessions weekly. 21 and 12 people registered. Fraternus, a group led by Jamie Hobbs for boys and men has kicked off.

Parish Life - Cheri Coffee and doughnuts didn't show up this past weekend. The program may need to be restructured or reorganized. Seeds of Kindness is going well and will let us know if anything additional is needed. Bereavement committee served 7 meals in June, July, and August. They are believed to have served around 700 people. They have a great process for getting set up, cleaned up, volunteers, and what to do with leftover food. Linda Bacher is willing to assist with more social events- this could be a good time to partner them with Coffee and Doughnuts. The cultural diversity ministry is looking to meet with other groups to offer more dinners or exposure to different cultures. They have two big events they plan to continue: a day of reflection and a rosary event. They will also help with Epiphany Mass. St. James Playgroup has lost their chairperson. They are looking for someone to take over. The widowed friends group continues to meet, but attendance is low. They are hoping it will pick up because they enjoy the company. The picnic committee is working on post-picnic reflections and final numbers. They are hoping to turn over key positions to someone new. It was originally set up to have it turned over every two years. The health and wellness committee is small but mighty. They stay busy and were able to provide first aid services at the picnic. They host Zumba classes and meet monthly. Special thanks to them for their showing of a documentary and reflection from Mimi Pike.

School Board - Father Michael School board met. When it comes to school, there is lots of stability among staff. Jeff Lanz is off to a good start as librarian and seems to be enjoying it. The new PE teacher is also doing well and is well received by the students. Thanksgiving break will be shorter as school in session the Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week.

Stewardship and Administration - Lorna Linda Brown will be working on the church directory. She is working on finding a vendor and planning on doing a summer photo session to accommodate families that might have students away at school during the school year.

Social Concerns - Jordan *Haiti*: No shipping in sight- the gang violence is controlling the country. The latest from Father Venel is because of gang control, the teachers can't get to the Tech school - supplies are hard to get - no one is safe. Father Venel is asking for financial help but stresses the extreme need for prayer. *SVdP Outreach*: They are making a change to their operational days due to lack of volunteers and partner agencies closing early on Fridays. They will change to Monday through Thursday from 10am to 2pm effective 1 Aug. Mr. Roush also stresses the need for volunteers. *Sick and Homebound*: Per Deacon Karl, things are going okay, but he is looking for someone to take over *Thanksgiving*: first meeting is in October. *Jail Ministry*: things are going well. Teams go about twice a month. It's a great ministry and very rewarding to see these guys respond so positively to Jesus Christ. We have several inmates come and talk to us every time we go, and several have come back multiple times. Would like to see more volunteers or be able to get a group to go once a week.

Worship - Jeff: Pleased with picnic Mass in school gym, it worked very well. A Eucharistic Ministers training refresher will be offered in October. The K of C will be taking servers to a putt-putt golf outing soon. Adjustments will be made to the TV ministry regarding audio and video.

Closing Comments - Father Michael

Blessing - Father Loi

Next meeting: November 14th, 2023