



## MINUTES

### Agenda Overview and Prayer Requests

**Opening Prayer and Pastor's Notes-** Fr. Michael will be gone for most of May with annual training. Fr. Lawrence will be here, and we will be in good hands. We thank Fr. Loi for his time at St. James as his assignment ends in two months.

**Budget Discussion** - \$140,000 in preschool grant income will be lost for the upcoming year. Tuition has a 2% increase. This is the first increase in tuition we have had since going to a tuition model. We focus on what we can control, net collections are out of our control, but we would like to see it higher in the future. Some support staff compensated by EANS (state funded grant) will be retained but will be funded by the school— leading to an increased cost. Budget approved by parish council.

### Parish Pastoral Council Chair Reports -

- **Faith Formation** - *Sister Augusta*: OCIA had 15 people enter the church; 52 First Communion recipients. Parish Eucharistic renewal April 28th-30th with opportunities for Confession. Theology of the Body will be hosted by St. James starting May 28th. Deacon Dean and Susan Sears are doing outstanding work on the study of the Book of Revelation. The group will break for summer and reconvene in September. *Olivia*: Summer activities are planned. Baccalaureate Mass and VBS are upcoming. Steubenville conference will take place in the summer. 10 baptisms and 9 weddings will occur/ have occurred in the last several months.

- **Parish Life** - *Seeds of Kindness* is continuing to send cards to parishioners on prayer lists, as well as assisted living, & homebound. We will also start sending cards to sacrament recipients for First Communion and Baptism. *Hospitality*- door greeters are hard to get; *Forever Young* is running smoothly. Attendance is steady. The Forever Young group is going to Tony York in May and having a picnic at the Nature Park in June. Our groups would like to send a big Thank you to the Parish Council and parish staff for all you do for our church community. The *Widowed Group* no longer meets due to low attendance; *St James Playgroup* no longer meets due to low attendance; The *Health and Wellness Committee* finally was able to have a hands-on CPR class on April 11th. There were 10 parishioners who attended. This class was made possible by the Baptist Health Foundation, making the offering free of charge to participants- so appreciative of their generosity.

Zumba class is very successful with attendance growing every week. The Health and Wellness Committee will be responsible for the First Aid station at the St James Picnic.; *Multicultural Group*: We have a presentation on Ecuador by Francia Bennett on May 11th. *Social*: Father's Day weekend- reception of farewell for Fr. Loi. *Picnic*: a meeting will take place on Thursday; we are four months away so things will start moving very quickly. A Teen Zone is hopefully in the works, and they are still looking for someone to run concessions. A hot dog dinner option is a possibility for children.

- **School Board** - Pat Black has been hired to be the assistant principal at the school. The bussing situation is working out very well and we are bussing more students than we had expected.

- **Social Concerns** - *Blood Drive*: The next Red Cross blood drive is scheduled for June 23, 2024. *Room in the Inn*: This year we had a very small space that we rented for the shelter, and it could only hold 19 to 20 cots for our guests each night. This caused very crowded conditions, but we made the best of it, and thankfully, it worked. Total Guests: 79 different guests for the 3 months December- February. Total Bed days: 1,214 beds for the 3 months. Volunteer hours: 5,651 Value of the volunteers: \$63,401. *Haiti*: More frequent prayer for our Sister Parish and all of Haiti. We remain unable to ship collected items. We have, so far, transferred funds successfully. The Tech. School, last report, struggles due to unsafe roads teachers have problems getting to the school. May God help the people of Haiti. *St. Vincent dePaul Outreach*: Our new VP is doing great. We are doing well overall. We could always use a few younger volunteers. Jan 1, 2024-March 31, 2024: 636 households helped, \$28,899.68

- **Stewardship and Administration** - *Stewardship*- about 40 forms have been returned. Early bird incentives will be drawn on Mother's Day. Pictorial directory sign-ups are underway. Encourage fellow parishioners to sign up for a time slot.

- **Worship** - Holy Week went well. Cup ministers need to be ironed out, but a very minor issue. Great servers that were very competent and helpful while Jeff was out during shoulder surgery. Dean is approaching his one year here as deacon and it is going well, and he is eager to serve in any capacity.

## Closing Comments

**Blessing - Father Loi**

**Next meeting: To be determined.**

**Submitted by:**

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