

ST. MARY MAGDALENE
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

November 20, 2023

Opening Prayer: 6:02pm led by Fr. Chris

In Attendance: Matt Patterson, Kim Celentano, Kathy Pipenhagen, Mary Calgareo, Kent Bell, Stephen Dombrowski, Jen Cunningham

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve Minutes: Kim Celentano; Second: Mary Calgareo

General Council Updates: Introduction and welcome to the new council member, Jen Cunningham. Abraham and Nicky were unable to attend. Will reschedule for January. The secretary will make a new contact list of council members.

Parish Community Events:

- Fr. Chris announced that a new Deacon will come to our parish when Bishop Dolan approves Deacon Raymond DuBois. Fr. would like him to work with the Pastoral Care ministry. Deacon Richard is healing and will return after Christmas.
- Fr. Chris proposes a staff member liaison, Marilee Pearson, to attend the pastoral council meetings to help him keep on track with the recommendations of the council. The Council approved the recommendation with the stipulation that she is a non-voting assistant to Fr. Chris.
- Eucharistic Procession – Planning was done in October. About 100 attended. The route was a little shorter. There were glitches in the execution. Handouts were needed. Overall, it worked out well.
- November Fest Recap – It was very successful. About the same amount of funds were brought in as last year. If we want it to be a fundraiser planning needs to start in April. Most ministries want to do something fun at the Nov. Fest and not have it be a Ministry Fair. Contacting the ministries was difficult. We need current contact information. A lot of Ministries don't look at their emails. Office needs to have the current contact list for all ministries. Also freshen up bulletin adds. The dunk tank was very popular!
- Holy Hour for Life – The Pastoral Council needs to sponsor an hour.
- Advent Pageant – People are excited. A script was found for a 15–20 minute play. There will be 18 children, angels, Mary and Joseph. Robert has 20 in the children's choir. Friday starts rehearsals. There is a lot of help to make costumes.

Parish Construction Updates:

- The Sanctuary Lamp has been hung.
- The Building Committee team will consist of a representative from the K of C, Catholic Daughters, Family Formation, Matt Patterson, Kim Celentano, Abbey and Jackie.
- There will be a meeting at the Diocese to develop our 17 acres faster. Possibly leasing/selling the land for a retirement home for priest of the diocese with a connection to a rectory for active priests. It would be more beneficial to lease the land. Need to know Bishop Dolan's vision.

Updates from the Pastor:

- State of the Parish Address – To be given in January. Need to first clarify with the Finance Council members. Budget begins July 1.
- Pastoral Council Guidelines – Per St. Mary Magdalene Pastoral Council Statutes, the Pastoral Council can request the Parish Staff to attend Council meetings to give informational reports. Since there is a fear and misunderstanding of roles, Jen suggested a soft approach to get to know each other at a luncheon or a combined Christmas / Epiphany party. Will email dates.

Finance Council:

- The Finance Council meets every 3 months. If we have any questions or comments for them let Matt know by email.

- Outdoor Social Area - \$10K raised and \$15K verbal pledge. Suggested, lots of pavers moving into turf with tables and chairs. It is easier to fundraise if there is a plan to work toward.

Open Forum:

- Kathy brought up the guitar being used as one of the instruments for music at Mass. Fr. Chris' vision for the parish is to have Sacred Music. What is Sacred Music? Kathy will bring the information to the next meeting.
- Sacred Space – It was suggested that there be a sign to quiet cell phones during Mass because the church is a place that should be quiet and prayerful. Jen gave ideas on how to help parents deal/teach their children what is going on at Mass so that they behave better. Suggestions 1. articles in the Bulletin to explain the Mass; 2. make available the Magnifikid to be distributed every month at a central location, or at Religious Ed classes, or St. Joseph family groups.

Closing Prayer: 7:39pm led by Fr. Chris

Next Meeting: 6:00pm January 22, 2024