

# CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

## Meeting Minutes – August 23, 2022

Parish Staff			Present	Parish Pastoral Council			Present
Pastor	Rev. Sean P. Horrigan		yes	PPC Member 2019-2022	Rosanne Cook, Chair		yes
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Vincent Tran		no	PPC Member 2019-2022	Victor Jackson		yes
Deacon/ Parish Administrator	Deacon Kerry Bourque		yes	PPC Member 2019-2022	Matt Lane		yes
Director of Development and Stewardship	Megan Dillingham		yes	PPC Member 2019-2022	Marjorie Maloney		yes
				PPC Member 2019-2022	Shawn Muldoon		yes
				PPC Member 2020-2023	Michelle Allien		yes
Parishioners				PPC Member 2020-2023	James Brown		yes
				PPC Member 2020-2023	Sue Fielding, Vice Chair		yes
				PPC Member 2020-2023	Tom Jones		yes
				PPC Member 2022-2024	Harry Conte		yes
				PPC Member 2022-2024	Jessica Juarez, Recorder		no
				PPC Member 2022-2024	Sarah Seidman		yes
				PPC Member 2022-2024	Keith Thomas		yes

**Meeting began:** 7:03 PM

**Opening prayer:** Matt

**PPC Matters:**

- Quick introduction of both Pastoral & Stewardship Councils

**Open Forum:** No members from the parish were in attendance to address the council.

**Information sharing from Fr. Sean & Dcn. Kerry, Megan Dillingham**

### 1. CtR Block Party & Ministry Fair

- Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – **CtR Block Party & Fall Ministry Fair**, from 12 noon to 2:00 PM. The event is free. Parishioners will be treated to hot dogs, chips, Kona Ice, a DJ, and yard games. The gym will also be open.
- Stewardship Council members will be present at the **Block Party** to welcome parishioners and make personal connections. New parishioners attending will be anxious to learn more about the parish and find their niche.
- At the same time, there will be a **Fall Ministry Fair** in the RAC. Currently 24 ministries will be represented in the lobby of the RAC. As families adjust to the fall/school schedule, it is a good time to host the Ministry Fair. There will be a smaller Ministry Fair in January in narthex after each Mass.

## **2. Stewardship Calendar**

- Megan presented the **Stewardship Calendar**. A new event this fall, the **Volunteer Appreciation Event**, will be on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, recognizing both the time and treasure of our many parishioners. The event will begin with celebration of the 7:00 PM Mass followed by a cake and punch reception. The date of this event is the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our new church.
- Fran noted that the **KC Golf Tournament** is scheduled for Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, and is missing from the calendar.

## **3. ParishStaq – new software**

- Over the next several months, CtR will be transitioning from the database **ParishSOFT** to **ParishStaq**. The new database will provide a better interconnection between different aspects of church life and individual parishioner families. This software will give the staff a better view of CtR parishioners. A few local parishes (Saint John Vianney, Saint Anthony of Padua, Saint Vincent de Paul) are also making this software transition.
- The initial transition to **ParishStaq** will mainly involve the CtR staff. It is the goal for parishioners to experience a seamless transition. Current systems such as Faith Direct and Acceptiva will be eliminated. These types of transactions will now be done through **ParishStaq**.
- The public transition to **ParishStaq** will occur in January (a time for new beginnings) at which time parishioners will have access to update their contact information. The 'Giving Module' will be the first phase of the roll out. Parishioners will need to make the transition from Faith Direct to **ParishStaq**. At the same time, there will be a request for families to consider increasing their financial giving to the church. The overall transition will take about 6 months.
- Overall, the hope is that **ParishStaq** will streamline our access to all significant information and provide more flexibility. It will also assist with volunteer recruitment as more specific information is available.
- The CtRCS is a separate entity and will not be switching their software.
- This transition will not impact our use of Flocknote. CtR is the biggest user of Flocknote in the country of this Houston-based company.
- There will be a special outreach to families with new babies and newly married couples (after receiving the sacrament of baptism and marriage, respectively) to engage them into parish life. The same will be done for families with children who recently received their sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

## **4. Spring Festival 2023**

- Fr. Sean highlighted Spring Festival Listening Sessions – he wants to hear from more families. There will be a second opportunity on August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. They received an average response at the June Listening Session. Both Listening Sessions will be followed by a mail in survey.
- Fr. Sean knowing the festival will have new leadership and structure, wants to know the desires of his parishioners.
- Members of the Stewardship Council will be asked to take a leadership role on the Advisory Committee as we separate the aspects of the festival into more manageable pieces. The Advisory Committee will be established no later than November 2022.
- While the parish staff will necessarily take the lead in securing contracts and placing bulk orders from vendors, a greater involvement from individual ministries will be the goal for the 2023 Festival. Having an individual ministry take ownership of a 'piece' of the festival will help with recruiting volunteers (our greatest challenge).

- General discussion confirmed that the variety of food was the biggest attraction of the festival. This was followed closely by a sense of community for our parish families and the greater community. We want to continue to foster this spirit with more volunteers and less dependence on a small subset of our parish (or an individual). It was stated that we cannot serve a large community with the current volunteer base. We need more 'hourly' volunteers.
- Last year's goal for the festival was \$130,000. This goal was nearly achieved with the 'cash only prizes' sale of raffle tickets. In addition to the sale of more tickets, the parish received positive feedback for this change.
- As we plan for Festival 2023, relocating some booths or increasing their dimensions (e.g., food booths) is a consideration. Having the festival in the front of the church provides great publicity, however, there may be better options. Any such changes in the location of the large tents would need to consider the CtRCS car line.
- There was a consensus that we should differentiate Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. While Sunday attracts the families and younger children, Saturday evening tends to be an older crowd. Perhaps provide more music and entertainment on Saturday night and focus on more family activities on Sunday.
- It was also stated that there are many untapped talented people within our parish community. We need to make "specific" requests for our volunteer needs and at the same time get to know our parishioners and their individual skills, talents, and passions. Asking the right person to volunteer for the right job is our key to success.
- Fr. Sean's final requests of the councils was to truly reflect on the purpose of the festival for our parish and to take an active role (whatever it may be) in the CtR 2023 Spring Festival.

##### **5. Prayer Garden and Grotto**

- Fr. Sean will provide a parish-wide update of the Prayer Garden and Grotto in the August 27/28 bulletin. We are moving ahead having met with contractor this summer. It is a four-phase project. We have ~\$500,000. (\$600,000 budget with finance council approval).
- **Phase 1** will begin on the south end with the extension of the current Meditation Garden with the Our Lady of Guadalupe. The plan is to break ground on Phase 1 on December 12<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and complete it by spring.
- **Phase 2** will be Our Lady of Sorrows. The Pieta statue will be moved to behind where the Mary statue is within the church creating a Mary centric area. Memorial bricks currently placed in the area of the Pieta will be moved to accompany the Pieta in its new location.
- **Phase 3** will be an effort to beautify the area that currently contains 3 very unhealthy trees. Other trees may also need to be removed; however, no final decision has been made.
- **Phase 4** will be the construction of the Grotto.
- As the parish begins work on the extension of the current Meditation Garden, attention to maintaining a quiet area of reflection and prayer will continue to be a prime consideration resulting in a possible few modifications to the existing garden.
- Fr. Sean wants to provide a columbarium to our parishioners. Currently, the diocese says no, with their biggest concern being the commitment to perpetual care. Catholic parishes in other dioceses have columbariums, so there is hope that eventually CtR will be allowed one as well.

## **6. Holy Communion**

- In the August 27/28 bulletin, Fr. Sean will address a frequent question – when will the chalice return at Holy Communion? Currently, there is no change from our bishop. The decision to bring back the precious blood is solely left to the discretion of the local bishop. When this occurs for our parish/diocese, EMCs will need to be retrained (as well as the congregation) after a 2 ½ year plus absence of the chalice at Mass. This weekend's bulletin will also remind parishioners on the fullness of Jesus, body, blood, soul, and divinity that is present when receiving the bread, the precious body of Christ.

**Open Discussion:**

**Next Meeting:** September 27<sup>th</sup>

**Prayer Volunteer for next meeting:** Victor

**Closing Prayer:** Matt

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:35 pm