

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

**January 19, 2023**

### Zoom platform

*Council members in attendance:* Fr. John Dillon, Anna Breece, Marianne DeAusen, Anton Handono, Chris King, Bernie McGuire, Ann Pierre and Vincent Price.

*Others in attendance:* Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan

- The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.
- Chris King moved to accept the minutes from the October 2022 meeting. Bernie McGuire seconded the motion. The minutes for the October 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

Fr. John Dillon reported several facilities improvements in which the church will soon need to invest, including the replacement of the church fire panel, the eventual refurbishment of the parking lot; and the refurbishment of the piano and replacement of the organ in the church.

In addition, Fr. John reported that construction crews dug a trench in the parking lot last year so that a fiber-optic cable can be laid to improve Wi-Fi capability in the church. This project has not yet been completed.

The pastor also gave a financial report for December, reporting that parish income that month was \$156,717, while parish expenses were \$132,406. The income-expense ratio is then \$23,769. In looking at the fiscal year-to-date and year-to-date budgets, income is ahead of expenses. In reviewing weekly offertory for December 2022, the total was \$82,273. The year-to-date budgeted offertory actually ran ahead of year-to-date actual offertory, \$485,150 to \$482,714.

Fr. John also reported that the parish achieved at 99 percent of its parish goal for the 2022 Annual Appeal.

The council also heard several ministry reports, including the following:

- **Communications Ministry**

Ministry Coordinator Melissa Egan reported that the ministry:

- Submitted stories for the December and January issues of *Our Parish Times*.
- Promoted Advent and Christmas services, liturgies and events across platforms.
- Is looking to organize a watch party for the “People of God” documentary produced by *America* magazine.

- **Youth Ministry**

Fr. John reported that he is getting more proactive with the ministry, working with Travis Tomon and Susan Anderson.

- **Haiti Ministry**

Fr. John reported that the Haiti Benefit Concert will feature silent auction items from former parishioner Pat Labuda. Also, the Medical Mission continues. Lastly, Hoops for Haiti will return March 11 for the first time since 2019.

- **Religious Education:**

Fr. John said RE is expecting to have 47 children receive their first Penance.

- **Parish Pastoral Council elections**

Fr. John asked that members start recruiting new members.

- **New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance**

- Chris King reported that the NNIA is currently supporting more than 20 families. About 10 of them have become financially independent, but some are still using literacy and acclimation help.
- She also reported that the NNIA recently hosted an event at Asbury United Methodist, during which Chris, a volunteer, and a refugee woman spoke. She asked Fr. John if NNIA could do something similar at St. Francis.

- **St. Jude Regional School**

Liaison Anna Breece reported that Catholic Schools Week would take place from January 28 to February 3. She also said Jeanne Donnatelli, the school principal, will speak at St. Francis at an upcoming 11:15 am Mass.

- **Knights of Columbus**

- Bernie McGuire said the Knights would go downtown for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National March for Life on January 20. They'll also host an upcoming Fifth Rosary, Family Night, and spaghetti dinner to benefit the Haiti Medical Mission.
- Bernie also reported that the Knights planned to pay half the cost of a new sonogram machine for the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center.

Under new business, Fr. John reported that the parish is taking part in the archdiocesan Direct Support Cohort Program. One of the first orders of business is to form an Intercultural Committee. Chris King reported that the parish hosted an International Dinner years ago that was well-received; Fr. John agreed that a similar event would be a great way to kick off the committee.

The pastor also reported on the archdiocesan Mass to celebrate Black History Month. Lastly, Fr. John announced the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Dance on February 11 and the Episcopal Ordination of two new auxiliary bishops in the archdiocese on February 21.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.