

## **Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - March 10, 2024**

**Council members present:** Alex Amado, Colleen Boone, Rob Cassleman, Trisha Doumit, Fr. Steve Dublinski, Bill Engels, Jr. (youth rep.) Robert Harris (Chair), Rich Heath, Jim Lincoln, Judene McLane, Marie Parrish (Zoom), and Charlotte Worthy. Mary Sutherland, secretary.

**Opening Prayer** - Our Father.

**Liturgy Committee Meetings:** The committee has met twice, focused on Holy Week and Easter. Traditionally, the ten intercessions at the Good Friday liturgy are chanted. The members would like us to try that this year. They still need a Spanish speaker who is interested in liturgy. There are two teens on the committee, and a musician from WSU. That is good; we need a variety of generational voices. The committee suggested that the musicians meet in person before Easter to improve communication. The next topic will be Pentecost.

**Musician's meeting:** The parish musicians met on Saturday, March 9, and had a great conversation. They discussed Holy Week and Easter music. We want to have music that the community needs. There is always new music coming out for Mass. Fr. Steve would like to send a musician to a national Catholic music convention each year. The parish could help pay for someone to go. The conventions are also for Spanish speaking musicians.

**Spanish liturgy for Holy Week & Easter:** There is an additional Spanish Mass this month, at 1 pm Palm Sunday. The 6:30 pm Good Friday Children's liturgy and the 11 am Easter Sunday Mass are bilingual.

**Prayer, Bread & Soup March 13:** The council signed up to read, set up, clean up, and bring bread and soup.

**Church Maintenance Update:** The downspout clean-out in the church courtyard seems to have worked. The classroom hallway has not had water come in since then. Fr. Steve would still like to have a drain field dug to prevent further problems. The rug in the reconciliation room was a tripping hazard, and difficult to clean. It kept wrinkling. Don and Char Snekvik took it out. The carpet underneath is fine.

**Spring cleaning updates/needs:** Our church spring cleaning is Saturday, March 23. Breakfast at 8 am, work following. We need someone to lead the process of filling in the bare dirt scar in the grass up in the middle of the church courtyard where a big tree was removed a couple years ago. It could be planted in grass, or perennials, or maybe with a small prayer garden and a bench. Also, last fall, the living room carpet in the old apartment in the basement of the parish office was found to be soaking wet and musty. A downspout extension had been disconnected, so water was leaking down into the house. A number of volunteers pulled the heavy wet carpet out during the fall cleanup in November. The wood underneath was wet and smells musty now. Lisa Weber will bring saws and tools so that volunteers can remove the wood.

**Update on House next to the parish office:** There is no update on purchasing the house. Members discussed the importance of creating better access to the church versus taking this opportunity to buy the house. Everyone agrees better access is needed, but there is at least one way to get in; through the alley door. Buying the property would give us flexibility. Parking could be created closer to the church, instead of across the road. We

would also be more visible. However, Covid changed the dynamics of church attendance. Parking is not a problem now since attendance is still down. National trends are terrible. We are doing better than most, but need more information about where we are heading.

**Fish Fry Friday, Marcy 15, 6 pm:** The Knights are putting on another fish fry this coming Friday. The last one was not well-attended. People either were sick or did not know about it. We need to advertise more. We will put it on social media. It was announced at Mass the last two weekends, plus there are posters and ads in the bulletin and on the website.

**Social Media Update:** Fr. Steve met with college student and parishioner Brendan Doumit over Christmas break. He said to go ahead with social media for young people; make it fun. We really need to do it to reach those under 30 or so. Fr. Steve is working up a couple of ads for Holy Week. There is a 30-second one for Holy Thursday which says that Jesus didn't seek power, he washed feet. And to please join us at 7 pm, Thursday, March 28. The Good Friday video says that Jesus didn't seek to save his own life, he saved yours. There is a video with the cross on the church roof and the sunrise. We need to get our message out in Spanish, too. Another college student from the parish, Elle Thomas, is looking for volunteer work for her marketing major at WSU. We will ask her to help us. Our marketing committee needs to meet, also. We can start out on Instagram and Facebook where we already have accounts.

**Easter Vigil:** Fr. Steve asked the council members to please attend the Easter Vigil if possible. It is the principal Mass of the year. Everyone is encouraged to attend. He suggests that people bring their children to the first part, which starts out on the patio with the lighting of the Easter Fire. We have three baptisms and one person being confirmed this year. It is at 8 pm Saturday, March 30, and will last 2 to 2.5 hours.

**Closing prayer:** Glory Be. The next meeting is supposed to be April 14, but we may change it since that is the last weekend of Pullman schools spring break and several members and the secretary may be out of town.

Submitted by Mary Sutherland