

## **Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

February 9, 2025

**Council members present:** Alex Amado, Colleen Boone, Rob Cassleman, Trisha Doumit (co-chair), Fr. Steve Dublinski, Robert Harris, Rich Heath, Bunnie Lawhead (on Zoom), Judene McLane, Marie Wallace Parrish (co-chair). Mary Sutherland, parish secretary.

**Opening Prayer** - Our Father.

**Hosting Prayer, Bread & Soup – which date, March 12, 19, 26, or April 9?** The council will host on March 19, the feast of St. Joseph. They will sign up for bread, soup, and reading at next month's meeting.

**Update on Facilities Committee:** Fr. Steve talked with four or five engineers from Schweitzer after the last Spanish Mass. They were interested in having one of them be on the committee. Alex reported that most of them are too busy, or traveling a lot, but there is a couple who may be able to do it.

**Update on immigration issues related to church:** Fr. Steve and Rob went to a meeting of the Interfaith Council on February 6. Law professor Geoffrey Heeren, Director of the Immigration Litigation and Appellate Clinic at the University of Idaho, came and spoke about how and whether churches can help immigrants. It is very complicated. The current administration repealed the "sensitive location policy", so that Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) can now come into public spaces in churches, school, etc. Certain spaces in churches can be made private. Many of these issues have not been tested in court.

ICE needs permission, or a warrant signed by a judge, to come into a private space. Sacred Heart handed out fliers from Catholic Charities in Spokane that detail the rights that people have. There is a link to the fliers on our website, in English and Spanish. People do not have to open doors or windows if there is no warrant, speak without an attorney present, or agree to a search without a warrant. They have the right to take photos, videos, and write notes.

People who have been in the country for two years or more have more rights. They should gather proof of residence. It is important to have children's birth certificates readily available.

The Keep Washington Working act prohibits law enforcement officials from detaining or taking someone into custody solely to determine their immigration status or based solely on a civil immigration warrant, detainer, or hold request. Being undocumented in the United States is not a crime under local, state, or federal law. Interfaith council members are working on an information sheet detailing rights.

Is the response from our church enough? We are giving out information, is there anything else we can do? It does not appear so right now. The Interfaith Council will continue to work on the issue.

**Jubilee Church Year - what we're doing and any other ideas of what we could do:** Not many parishes are celebrating it, but Pope Francis is trying to involve them. It was the topic for the recent Disciples in Dialogue, and Fr. Steve is using Jubilee Year Masses on first Fridays, here and at Bishop Place. The theme of Hope will continue at other events, incorporating it into what we are already doing. Could we have an ecumenical dialogue about Hope? There is a Jubilee Year slide in the coffee and donuts slideshow.

A member wondered if people could watch the parts of Disciples in Dialogue with Fr. Steve's explanations of the Jubilee Year, and how we can rediscover Hope. The quality might not be good, and we missed recording the second session. Fr. Steve is considering making three-minute videos of that presentation. We could put those on You Tube. We don't livestream the Masses on You Tube because there are constant problems with song copyrights. We have the proper licensing, but it takes a lot of time each week to prove that to You Tube. Kurt Zimmerman is working on the audio for the Mass livestreaming, trying to clean it up. We have 150 views per day of daily Mass.

**Update on homelessness in Whitman County:** Concerned citizens are helping Whitman County come up with a five-year plan for addressing homelessness. The first county-wide meeting to look at the plan was at Sacred Heart. We also hosted a lunch for the homeless with the Community Action Center.

There is a new shelter for people experiencing homelessness in Colfax called Hope Haven. Fr. Steve is going to meet with the people who are running it to find out more. It is in a building that was originally a nursing home and eventually became Paul's Place, a group home for people with disabilities. It has 30 beds in individual rooms. They have nurses and counselors on staff.

The Latah Recovery Center is opening a Recovery Center in Pullman. The group that is looking at homelessness in Whitman County was instrumental in getting them to come to Pullman. It will be a day

center, where people gather to help each other stay sober, along with counseling and other services. It will meet in Real Life Church until they find a place of their own.

**Upcoming Events:** Fr. Steve encourages council members and all parishioners to attend the following events. The **Rite of Enrollment** is an interesting one. If you happen to be in Spokane March 16 it is well worth going to this ceremony at the cathedral. The catechumens write their names in the Book of Enrollment as they prepare for Easter baptism. We will have the **Rite of Sending** at Sacred Heart before they go to Spokane.

**\*Knights of Columbus breakfast** – Sunday, Feb. 23, between Masses, donations for Pullman School Pantries.

**\*International Mardi Gras Potluck** – Saturday, March 1, 5:30 pm.

**\*Ash Wednesday**-March 5. Mass at 7:15 am & 7:30 pm (bilingual). Children's service 6:30 pm, Drive-thru ashes, noon, parking lot; Assisted living services: Regency 11 am, Bishop Place 1 pm.

**\*Rite of Enrollment** - March 16 at 2:00 pm at the cathedral in Spokane

Next regular meeting March 9, 2025.

Closing prayer.