

Lumen Christi Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes—September 17, 2024

Present: Fr Matthew Jacob, James Deguire, Jim Ott, Doug Patch, Mary Tobin, Lisa Wright. On phone: Bob Meyers

Meeting began at 7:05 with a reading and reflection of the Gospel of Mark 9: 30-37.

August Minutes Approval

James DeGuire made a motion and Mary Tobin a second to approve the August meeting minutes with no corrections.

Commission Report Discussion

- James Deguire made a correction to the September commission reports noting that the New Parishioner breakfast is from 10-11am not 9-10am as written.
- Catholic Formation
 - .Goal is to showcase in advance to parishioners what is happening each week
 - Registration
 - Current registration is 197 families, 339 students. The team will have a more accurate number in October as students are still joining.
 - Peak registrations in sacrament years
 - OCIA (OCIA Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)
 - Five adults and 3 families totalling 11 people, are registered
 - Classification as an adult is over 7 years of age
 - Year round programming is scheduled
 - This program was formerly known as RCIA (Rite of Order for Christian Initiation.)
- Lisa Wright asked a question about how immigration is being considered as a new ministry. Fr. Matthew stated that there is an action item to do research with other parishes to see how this is being addressed and what their goals are with their work. These findings will then be presented to Fr. Matthew and the Pastoral Council.
- Finance
 - Early in the year, \$12K under budget in Envelope and Offertory (E/O) donations
 - Review of giving households
 - 2019: 2400 households, 1490 donations = 62%
 - 2024: 2371 households, 1360 donations =57%. Of this 57%, 60%give online
 - Goal is to increase this number
 - Staff is writing letters, segmenting those who have not given.
 - Annual report - showcasing what people do in our parish and how donations make this possible.

- Goal is to make giving as easy as possible, and offering various ways to do so (online, envelopes)
- Building Update
 - School: Budget approval of \$29K for boiler, vent and pipes; \$10K for access swipe cards
- National FEMA Grant
 - Finance did due diligence on consulting firms, namely Symphony, that specialize in writing these grants
 - Jane Bartlett spoke with St Dominic's parish and they were happy with the results
 - Symphony is the only consultancy in the Midwest doing this type of work.
 - The state must approve any project related to the FEMA grant before FEMA releases any funds
 - Approximately 12% goes to pay consultancy fee
 - The contract was approved on 9/17 and work will commence immediately
 - The initial project stage is an analysis by law enforcement
 - Portal to submit grant opens in February 2025 and funds are approved they are granted in spring
- Other : APC Meeting
 - Bob Meyers shared an overview of the meeting
 - Bruce Varick, from the Office of Schools— Diocese of Milwaukee, discussed safety protocols and security inspections for each parish. There were photos of Lumen Christi's doors shown during the meeting. Fr. Matthew shared that there is a balance between everyone feeling safe and building community- we need to be sensitive to both.
 - Fr. Burns is continuing his evangelization work
 - There are seven young women in the convent and religious orders
 - 7 of the 9 new priests are native to Wisconsin
 - 29 ordinations of deacons
 - Comment was made by Bob that evangelization starts with self and in the pew at church
 - Seminarian dinner at the Baird Center on October 4 is sold out
 - Love One Another Campaign: \$47M campaign has been collected and distributed. Two new Catholic schools have been opened. Catholic schools have been testing 1 ½ years ahead of other schools per independent study
 - The mission for the deanery and parishes is to evangelize the Eucharistic Congress

Pastoral Update/Discussion

- Please register for the Parish Councils Congress on Saturday October 19. Fr. Matthew will send link for registration
 - 8:30-9:00 Mass
 - There will be various breakout sessions on different topics including: parish missionary leadership, effective council structure and resources, finance and incorporating prayer into leadership and meetings
- Fr. Matthew attended the Safety Committee meeting which was part of the School Commission.
 - “Vigilant but welcoming” is the theme he stressed and noted the hard work done to create a welcoming community at Lumen Christi
 - The Pastoral Council discussed how we can be mindful, have trust and find a healthy balance
 - The Pastoral Council should help explain this mindset when asked about the safety topic.

Closing: The meeting was concluded at 8:42.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Wright*