

Church of the Resurrection – Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Monthly Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2023

**Members Present:**

Debbie Burke ('24), Tina Fesenmyer ('23), Christina Hefty ('24), Alex Herrmann (Youth Representative), Thomas Johnson ('25), Matt Marrison ('25), Patrick Maguire ('25), Travis Polk ('23), Sandra Tarullo-Jacobs ('24), Katy Wyatt ('23)

**Pastoral Staff Present:** Father Denis Kigozi, Father Anish Thomas, Brad Romantic

**Guest Present:** Michael Smith (PFC Representative)

**Members Absent:** Adora Gallagher ('24), Rachel Hohman (Youth Representative), Judy Wright ('23)

**Pastoral Staff Absent:** Deacon Kevin Murrin

The council met in the Ministry Center. Meeting began ~ 7 pm

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Opening Prayer & Announcements	Thomas Johnson gave the opening prayer.
Minutes	Tina Fesenmyer moved that the November minutes be approved. Debbie Burke seconded (post meeting). The minutes were approved unanimously.
Reports/Updates	<p><b><u>Deanery Report</u></b> – No report since the Deanery is not yet up and running.</p> <p><b><u>Youth Report – Alex</u></b> <b>CREED:</b> Eighty 2nd graders made their first Reconciliation on Saturday, January 28th. Fifty-one 4th graders will be celebrating their first Reconciliation on Saturday, March 4th . The day will include retreat activities for parent/child followed by a reconciliation service and lunch. Eighty-six 2nd graders and their parents will attend a First Eucharist Retreat on Sunday, March 19th . The day will include several hands-on workshops, a behind-the-scenes tour of the church and an opportunity to participate in adoration. This will help prepare the children to receive their First Eucharist in April. There are 8 families with children in grades 3-6 that will be receiving their First Eucharist in the spring. We have started a new family program for them called “Nourish” – this is an at-home Eucharist Preparation program that includes all lessons and supplies for 10 lessons that are done at home with the support of the</p>

religious education office. We are excited to start this new program for families.

- **Middle School** : The middle school team has been doing a great job on Sunday nights. There are some great events happening for our 6-8 graders including: *CONNECT!* Small student discussion groups meet on Tuesday nights from 6:00-7:00pm. Jay Bohman facilitates the boys group and Cara Bohman facilitates the girls group. This is a great opportunity for middle school students that want to dive deeper into their faith. Also, RISE leader Karen Broering has planned an exciting event for the February 26 th RISE night. We will have a group of young adults from our parish come to the RISE group to talk about their service trip to Guatemala a few years ago. Guatemala is one of the countries supported by Catholic Relief Services, so we will be making a connection to the CRS Rice Bowls and why those are passed out every year during Lent. As part of this evening, they are going to serve the teens a meal from Guatemala – Black Bean Soup – made by RISE parents. *The Middle School LOCK-IN* will happen on Saturday, March 4 th from 6:00-10:00pm. We will begin with Mass at 5pm and then head to the ministry center for 4 hours of food, fun, faith and fellowship. The Quo Vadis High School Peer Ministry Team is planning a great night of activities, including a presentation from our Seminarian, Joey Rolwing. This is an evening they won't want to miss. - *Middle and High School fundraiser* - Parents of teens are asked to bring a homemade or bought dessert to be sold at the March 17 th Fish Fry. All proceeds will benefit the MS and HS Youth Ministry programs. *Child/Youth Stations of the Cross* – Friday, March 3 at 7pm. CREED and RISE students will read reflections for each station during this special presentation of the Stations of the Cross for the parish. Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 18 th !! Morning VBS meets Mon-Fri from 9-noon. Evening VBS meets Sun-Thu from 6-8:40pm. Registration begins in March.
- **HS Youth Ministry**: The confirmation students are getting closer to their Confirmation in April. Their day long retreat will be on March 18 with the students returning at 5 pm for mass. The High School Winter retreat was a success and Ignite numbers are climbing.

**Evangelization Director Report- Brad Romantic** Last weekend~ 45 men attended the parish Men's retreat at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein. There were many reports that the event ignited/ reignited a fire for the faith and generated excitement for coming retreat offerings. A

women's retreat is planned for Fall '23. Several family centered events are planned for spring including: "Holy Pause" on March 18 which will be held after mass, "Easter Family Fun Event" on the morning of April 1 which includes faith based crafts with egg decorating, and on May 6 a family get together hosted by the Knights of Columbus focused on empowering families. The parish mission will be held March 6-8 and will be directed by Dr. Cahall (Academic Dean; Director of Intellectual Formation at the Josephinum). The theme will be marriage, family, and the domestic church. On Monday, March 13th and March 20th, ministry leaders will be trained on how to use Parish Stack with the hope of equipping them to use it to its full potential. Finally, our diocese is sponsoring a diocesan wide evangelization event featuring Justin Fatica (known for "Hard as Nails - You are Amazing"). The event will be held at the Convention Center on March 29. Tickets are available online. HS Youth through adults of all ages are encouraged to attend and the church is asked to support this event.

**Suggestion Box – Debbie** An anonymous member of our faith community suggested a return to faith origins by placing railings by the altar. However, since the church does not require it and since it is not called for in the general instruction, railings at the altar will not be a priority project. A second community member suggested construction of a handrail going to the altar to extend the ability of those with mobility issues to continue serving as EOM's, lectors, etc. This suggestion has come before Father Denis previously. He and the staff are thinking through possible solutions, however installing handrails may necessitate breaking the façade at the altar. It was mentioned that the ramp may provide a solution. Another suggester raised concerns about a mass that was not streamed due to video concerns. Because contact information was left, Father Denis was able to discuss the concern personally. Alex asked if the issue about the state of the flags had been resolved. It has been – the flags now flying over the ministry center are in good shape.

**PFC Report – Mike Smith** Church financials continue to be "in the black". Recent expenses were a little more than expected but offerings were also. An increasing number of parishioners contribute electronically. There exists an influx of persons contributing financially but have been explicit that they don't wish to become parish members. It is unclear why, but this has been noticed as a trend, and is a matter of discussion and speculation. There are no facilities updates. It has been decided that Mike will continue in his role as PFC representative to PPC.

	<p><b><u>Pastor's Comments – Father Denis</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Stack training is ongoing with various ministries being trained in how to use the system. PPC may possibly do its training with PFC on March 15.</li> <li>• The decision has been made to move preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation to its traditional timing to coincide with the year persons receive First communion, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Persons who wish to postpone their First Reconciliation may do so but they will be prepared in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. During Lent, all CREED classes are coming for reconciliation.</li> <li>• The Feasibility study is ongoing and will be complete next week. Significant discussion ensued about the diversity of messaging received and not received. While only one survey is to be completed per household, some received multiple messages to complete the survey, others only received messaging to pause, others only received messages to take the survey, etc. Father said he would investigate it. The study should be completed next week. Next steps will be determined after the report.</li> <li>• The parish is 40 years old on July 12, 2023 and Fr. Denis will have been our pastor for 5 years on July 10, 2023. The 5 pm mass on 22<sup>nd</sup> July is planned as part of a celebration. Further ideas are still in the planning and may include an auction or dinner/dance. Father Jerry will be involved as well as founding families. Christina agreed to serve as PPC representatives to the committee working planning the event.</li> <li>• Q &amp; A: Has there been any more discussion about merging parishes? It is in the works but other items are currently higher priority such as changes in priest assignments which will be announced by the end of February. Parishes that are closing are already aware they will do so. Fr. Denis has not been notified which means he will remain our pastor for at least the next year and Church of the Resurrection New Albany will stay open. When will the congregation at COTRNA be able to receive both substances at communion? It has been left to each diocese to decide and is still not known in Columbus. Some discussion about contacting the diocesan offices to ask transpired.</li> <li>• <b>ACTION:</b> Father asked that we include in our next meeting a discussion of PPC New member training.</li> </ul>
-Old Business	<b><u>None</u></b>

## New Business

**Requests from Peggy Kehres:** Peggy needs help with set up and clean up on the Lenten Pause Event (March 18) and the egg coloring event April 2.

**Election – vote or lottery.** Discussion about the processes and history of voting versus lottery for selection of new PPC members. Alex moved that 2023 selection be done by lottery; Travis seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **Observations:**

Father Denis shared the average attendance counts for the past three years. The trend is positive though one PPC member noted that these numbers are all since Covid.

	2020	2021	2022
Sat. evening	205	275	343
Sun. 9 am	230	357	450
Sun. 11 am	244	424	562

Is it possible to clearly indicate that attending a live stream service does not absolve a person from attending in person unless the person is ill? It had been suggested that some clear terms be given at the beginning of the streaming. Father will think about how to do this without offending.

Do we have spiritual director at parish – If people have questions about that, who is the right person to ask? Fr. Denis is going to a meeting on spiritual direction this month. Dominican sisters have a program – Live Stream. Father may know more in March. (NEW BUSINESS NEXT MONTH) Is the diocese trying to form more training for spiritual training

**ACTION:** Consider discussion of Spiritual Direction at church in light Fr. Denis meeting on Spiritual Direction and a new program being run by the Dominican Sisters.

What processes exist for adult Catholics to become better catechized? It was suggested that maybe it would be useful to promote the opportunity for persons who are already Catholic to audit RCIA. Several concerns were discussed including the importance for converts to form a core within the RCIA training. Ultimately decided it might be useful to promote other similar events such as Theology on Tap in bulletin.

Matt reported on the positive responsiveness of choir members to Abby's request that they enter the church reverently. Christina mentioned that since the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is scheduled as an adult only event for July 22 and the parish picnic is scheduled 2 weeks later, perhaps we should consider not doing the Parish Picnic this year. **ACTION** Discuss whether we should have a parish picnic in

	light of the 40 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.. Debbie shared that Sean Morrissey and the K of C are again donating fish fry left overs to Food Rescue.
Closing Prayer	Thomas Johnson

---- Meeting adjourned ~ 8:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

***Sandy Doty***

Next meeting: Scheduled for March 8, 2023 but will be rescheduled due to Parish Mission

March Opening Prayer: Travis Polk

March Closing Prayer: Patrick Maguire