

Holy Family Catholic Church, Copperas Cove, TX

Pastoral Council Minutes, March 23, 2023

Present:

Fr. Augustine Ariwaodo
Linda McHugh
Don Whittenberger
Candace Moyna
Virginia Rodgers
Edith Natividad
Pat Lippincott
Celeste Johns
Lina Tuiasosopo
Rosa Subialdea
Anthony Drogos
Rodney Davenport
Tom McNew
Emily Kimball
Robin Spencer

Absent:

Teresa Gorres
Dianne Fajardo
Fred Williams
Joe Pangelinan
Al Castillo

Meeting called to order at 6:05

Opening prayer by Fr. Augustine

Minutes were reviewed, motion was made by Don to accept minutes as written, Tom seconded, motion carried.

Introduction of new members and acknowledgement of outgoing members. Outgoing members were all who have been on the council since 2016/17 and include: Pat Lippincott, Al Castillo, Joe Pangelinan, Teresa Gorres, Edith Natividad and Fred Williams.

Rodney asked who would like to put their name in the hat to be president, with the outgoing of Pat, our past president. No one did, so he offered to be our president. Don Whittenberger offered to be our Vice President. Robin Spencer will continue as the Secretary.

With the influx of the new council members, we will have pictures of the council up in the narthex, please either send a picture to Linda, or go see her by March 31 and she will take it.

Rodney will invite ministry heads to attend Pastoral Council meetings or appoint a representative from the ministry to give the council an update and to update their ministry once they have attended the meeting. The office will also send a flock note. Rodney asked how often we meet and as the response was once a quarter or so, he recommended we meet more often. The decision was made by the council to meet on the 3 Thursday of each month. The

office will put this information in the bulletin and invite ministry heads from that avenue as well.

After some discussion, Rodney will create some prototypes of nametags for the council members and get with a local printing company and will send out the examples to be voted on for purchase.

Father shared pictures of the sanctuary work on the altar for our review. Tom will get document protectors and post these in the narthex for the congregation. Renderings will also be put in the bulletin. Some discussion ensued on the addition to angels on either side of the tabernacle, this was not in the original quote. Father said it is a beautiful addition and the cost will be covered by donations already given. The timeline has been pushed back for the work due to waiting for supplies. Father hopes that the choir area will be complete by Easter. We will probably have to move into the social hall for mass in late June or July while the work is done in the sanctuary. The Bishop (or a representative) will have to come rededicated it before we move back in.

Fall Fest Update: Tom McNew agreed to be the chairperson. He is in the process of finding heads of many committees. He will send out what he has worked on thus far in an email to all on the council. We will ask for help from parishioners in the bulletin and with an announcement at mass. Tickets will go on sale as soon as possible; they are \$10 a piece and all prizes are all gift cards or certificates. It will take place on September 30 of this year.

Parish Mission dates are April 15-19, the topic is spiritual formation and leadership development. Father Poyo will celebrate all masses that weekend to set the parish up for the mission and then M, T, W will be the content.

A new parish directory will be created. Sign up online or through the office for your date and time, May 16-17, 2:30 – 8:30 and May 25-27, 10:00 – 4:30. We will get a parishioner to take pictures of the different ministries within the church. If you cannot be there for any of these sittings, please send a family picture to the office so you can be included. All those sitting for a picture will get a free 8x10 and a directory.

The Deanery Eucharistic Conference and Corpus Christi procession – the deanery is doing a procession in June, they are encouraging all parishes in the deanery to participate in this rather than doing their own. Father would still like us to have our own; he will get clarification for this from Fr. Richard before we move forward. Don Whittenberger will be sure he has the route we want to take for the procession to take to the police for approval and possible escort.

Father's 10th anniversary of his priesthood is coming up June 8th. The Ladies' Society will hold a reception for him on June 4th after 12:30 mass.

Emily Kimball, representative from the youth group, spoke on their events. The YG went to the Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference in February and enjoyed the fruits of the event. They will be attending the One Body event at St. Josephs on March 26, a free event offered by that

parish. They will be hosting the Easter egg hunt after the 10:30 mass on Easter Sunday. In an attempt to get more families involved they will start meeting at different homes and the families will host coming up this spring. Need more leaders in this ministry.

Parishioner concerns from emails and the box in the narthex:

-concern: when will we find out the cost of construction – this was gone over at town hall meeting that was recorded and is up at our website

-concern: cantors get a blessing and ask for volunteers for choir – Father will be sure to give the choir dedicate the choir one Sunday (as he does catechists, ladies' society, etc.) and call for volunteers for the choir has gone out in the bulletin on several occasions and will still go out periodically

-concern: can we greet visitors at the beginning of the mass - Father will continue to do this at the end of mass, as parishioners we can note where they are sitting and visit with them after mass... see next concern...

-concern: can we have nametag and donut Sunday back – The Knights of Columbus are having corporate communion Sunday which includes nametag and donuts in the social hall on the following dates: April 23, July 9, and Oct. 8. Any other ministry is able to host one, just let the office know. This stopped for a while due to lack of participation by many parishioners.

-concern: please include gum chewing as a reminder when the deacon welcomes everyone – this will be added to the deacon's script

-concern: why are we not using the confessional – it is part of the remodeling

-concern: there needs to be more handicapped parking on the Cove side – the amount of handicapped spots is meted out by the size of the parking lot and total spaces

-concern: small \$1 candles should be offered in the narthex: the candles currently there last longer and are only \$2

-concern: please remind Eucharistic Ministers to bring the Precious Blood to the choir – this will be addressed to Jeff Gorres as the head of that ministry to remind his people

-concern: please have two morning masses (daily) again – please see Father about this and he will address this to you individually

-concern: please have a mass in Spanish – Father says he would be interested in doing this on Sunday evening maybe once a month – he would need all ministers to be dedicated to doing this, so please approach him with a list of minister that would be EM, Lectors, choir members, ushers, etc – remembering they must be EIM trained – once this is given to him, he would not mind instituting this – he must also take into consideration that a new priest (once he leaves) may not be able to continue this

-concern: please offer a mentor program to help those who feel they don't belong or are not worthy of God's love – we are hoping this parish mission will see volunteers come forward to bring new leaders who will begin new programs in the parish

-concern: I don't feel like I am a part of things in the church as many of the organizations seem protective of their positions – we are looking into creating a group of parishioners to greet and give a tour to new parishioners and invite them to activities and ministries and mentor them through these events – also, this person left their phone number, so she was called by a council member and discussed how they might help in the meantime.

-concern: I am concerned about a couple that was asked to move because the back row is reserved for one person and the Our Father in Latin is difficult for all – the ushers will be apprised of this situation and address as necessary, this seems like it may be specific to one mass which one is it? please let office know so they can tell the ushers at that specific mass to be aware and address this – The Our Father in Latin was during Lent, so is over now – it is a good thing to stretch us and help us grow in our Faith and learning some prayers in Latin, one of the beginning languages of our faith is a part of this

-concern: I do not think it is right to have the Baptismal Font in the area where the choir is clearing out – in church teaching, the place of the Baptismal Font is between the entrance and the altar, the layout of our church does not lend itself to this, the place for the Font in church teaching is NOT the altar, so this is ideal as the space becomes available

-concern: money needs to be spent on parking lot repairs and painting, not a new Baptismal Font - the Men's Monday night group will paint the parking lot for only the cost of paint, the Baptismal Font will not cost anything out of the church's pocket as it has been donated and see explanation above about its placement

-concern: parking lot handicap spots, more teaching of church doctrine in homilies as well as the importance of the specific prayers like the Liturgy of the hours, divest monies collected for best return, when new books are purchased, have them be combined missal with music – see parking lot concern responses above; upcoming parish mission can help with creating small groups to share the importance of different liturgical devotions; attend finance council meetings to give your input on fund divestitures; books were purchase within the last 5 years, so it will be a while before new ones are purchased, hopefully there will be a committee at that

Father expressed his interest in getting the youth more involved in events of the parish as well as starting a young adult gathering. He asked us to each speak to one or two parishioners about being EMs, Lectors and Ushers.

The next meeting will be April 20, 2023.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:19.

Respectfully submitted, March 31, 2023 by Robin Spencer, Secretary.