

**Minutes  
Pastoral Council (PC) Meeting  
Sunday, October 3, 2021**

1. Pastoral Council (PC) meeting started at 11:50 with the following members present:

Bob Gualtieri	Fr. Bob Johnson	Rich Mountain
Kellie Parod	Barbara Swanson	Jim Thennes
Patti Wolfrom	Kathy Vanderburg	

- Absent PC members were: Mary Jane Sullivan, Ken Rodriguez
  - Also present were: Ross Maples, Bookkeeper and Michele McCormick, Faith Life Coordinator
2. **Opening Prayer:** Father Bob led the council in prayer.
3. **Approval of Minutes from Aug 2021:**
- a. Rich Mountain made a motion to approve the emailed minutes.
  - b. Seconded by Jim Thennes and approved.
4. **Opening Remarks**
- a. Fr. Bob
    - i. Opened by recapping the Catholic Sharing Appeal (CSA): \$112,821 pledged which gives a net overage of \$34,988 over pledges. The CSA assessment for 2021-2022 is \$68,280, which is a \$9,553 reduction from last year's assessment.
    - ii. The Building fund September collections amounted to \$33K.
    - iii. Over 305 people attended the 10:30 Children's Mass. It was a big success.
    - iv. Today's 10:30 mass had 220 people in attendance.
    - v. Fr. said that we need to replace the air conditioner in the Parish Hall at a cost of ~\$7K. Friday (10/1) one of the air conditioners in the church malfunctioned. Fr. is hoping to get through hurricane season before replacing it.
    - vi. The funeral mass and reception for Deacon Jack Trevino were beautiful.
    - vii. The Knights of Columbus had a very successful Brats & Beer food booth at Third Planet Brewing Saturday 10/2.
    - viii. Fr. thanked Michele for the great job she is doing as Faith Life Coordinator.
    - ix. Calendar events:
      - 10/2/21 Fr. presided at the marriage of Bia and Ken Rodriguez.
      - 10/3/21 Later today Fr. will preside over a Funeral mass for Sally Monteith.
      - There will be a retreat for our deacons the week of 10/4.
      - 10/10/21 COR will host a public rosary as part of Rosary-Coast-to-Coast.
      - 10/12 through 10/14 Priest's Convocation meeting with Bishop Wack in San Destin.
      - 10/17/21 Priscilla Circle will host Harvest Festival with live music (Rockers 4Life) at St. Joseph's Pavilion from 11:30 am – 2:30 pm. Food will be available from food truck vendors.
      - 10/17/21 We will have two adult confirmations.
      - 11/1/21 There will be a Memorial mass.
      - Fr. asked all PC members to invite people back to mass. It is our commission as Catholics.
5. **Unfinished Business**
- a. **Ministry Fair (Bob Gualtieri):** All concurred the Ministry Fair was well done. The signs looked great. Next year Bob would like to hang the ministry signs in the Narthex one week in advance of the Ministry Fair. There were ten paper sign-ups collected in the baskets during mass. The number of online enrollees was not available.

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- b. **Pastoral Council Nomination Status (Rich Mountain):** Rich said the PC received the required six new members to fill the current vacancies. Paul and Sharon Dooley will tag-team one seat. A flyer with all new PC members will be included in next week's bulletin. The new PC members will start in November.

Rich thanked the outgoing members (Kathy, Mary Jane and Ken) for their service and contributions.

**6. New Business:**

a. Ministry Reports:

- i. **Music, Arts & Environment & Ushers:** Bob reported that our music is superb, the best in our area. Sarah continues to do a great job. She asks members when they are available and based on their responses forms choirs at the different masses. Nothing is needed. Art & Environment is right now in a "down" season, but will soon need a new 12 foot Christmas tree.  
Ushers are greatly needed, especially for the Saturday mass. This past Saturday there were no ushers available. The use of baskets with a pole handle was discussed. We will continue to pass our existing baskets; but, the Deacon will be asked to ask parishioners to take and pass the basket even if they are not putting in a contribution. This will save time.
- ii. **Eucharistic Ministers/Visitation/Lectors/Sacristans/Alter Servers:** Rich said Lenny Smales is the new lead for the **Eucharistic Ministry**. Because of offering only one host, there are limited opportunities for volunteers to serve during the current time. There will be training next month for all volunteers. Lenny will contact individuals whose mandates expired during the pandemic and confirm they wish to continue serving. Lenny will ask Fr. Bob to determine the appropriate measures needed to restart the **Visitation Ministry**.  
**Lector Ministry** volunteers can now schedule their volunteer times/dates on the Ministry Scheduling Portal.  
**Sacristan Ministry** has Michele McCormick serving as the lead Sacristan. They could use more volunteers.  
Pre-COVID, COR had approximately 40 **altar servers**; however, only 4-5 have returned. Deacon Jim has asked us to pray that they might volunteer to serve again. We did get two new, second grade volunteers. One is serving at 7:30 am mass. They are receiving on-the-job training by Tom Toltzien during mass. No formal training sessions are planned at this time. It was suggested that Tom contact all the existing altar servers, some of whom have not yet returned to in-person mass attendance.
- iii. **Parish Council positions:** Rich reported that Kellie Parod has graciously volunteered to be PC Secretary for the next year. He asked Barbara Swanson, who accepted, to be Vice Chair next year.

**7. Administration:**

- a. Rich asked everyone to pray for Gretchen and her ill father who she is caring for in AZ.
- b. There was a security issue during Deacon Jack's funeral involving a paranoid delusional person who entered the church. After leaving and then returning Police were called, came and arrested the man. The back doors will be locked henceforward once the Gospel reading begins.
- c. Niceville Catholic Outreach (NCO) is struggling to fill its shelves now that it has reopened. A question was raised about food collected at mass being delivered to Sharing and Caring (S&C), a community outreach food bank that coordinates with Niceville Catholic Outreach (NCO).

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Because S&C helps NCO, volunteers will continue to take the food to S&C. Specific food drives to benefit NCO will be announced and done on an as needed basis. Parishioners will be asked to bring food donations for NCO when they participate in the Trunk or Treat 10/31/21 Halloween celebration.

**8. Finance Council:**

- a. Don Wilke was not present. Ross Maples reported overall contributions are down approximately \$30K for the first quarter. Thankfully though, expenditures were \$36K less than forecasted, i.e. so COR is still financially sound.
- b. He reported that our 2021 to 2022 CSA assessment was lowered; due, in large part, to Gretchen Erickson's effort of removing departed families from COR's registration roster.
- c. Our Building Fund saw \$21k in receipts in both July and August and \$39K in September. We still have a gap between our \$1.5 M goal and our pledged amount. COR needs the full \$1.5M to break ground. Getting a one year extension to 2023 on our initial three year collection period without an assessment has been very helpful. As a missionary parish, COR will be assessed on our collected building fund monies, if we do not start construction immediately after the assessment grace period. Assessment funds are used by the diocese to support its many programs, including priest formation.

**9. Meeting Close:**

- a. Rich Mountain gave us a closing thought from Antoine De Saint Exupery, a French writer, journalist and pioneering aviator (29 June 1900 – 31 July 1044):  
"A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral."
- b. Fr. Bob closed our meeting by leading us in prayer. We adjourned at 12:54 PM.
- c. The next meeting will be November 7, 2021.

Submitted by: Barbara Swanson