**Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

October 3, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

The Opening Prayer was led by Fr. Chuck.

Members Present:

Fr. Chuck, Deacon John, Deacon Jerry, Deacon Mike, Rick Heiland, Al Duke, Steve Browning (by phone), Olusola Falodun, Mic Griben, Terri Horrigan, Robyn Jacobs, Doug Koch, Cris Upperman

Members Absent:

Gloria Murray, Ryan Reid, Samantha Reid

**Minutes**

The minutes of September 2023 were approved unanimously, on a motion by Steve, seconded by Mic.

**Communications**

 There was one communication, a letter from a parishioner, who said, “thank you,” for the Bicentennial Bash, and how joyful a day it was, celebrating with friends and reminiscing about past carnivals and picnics. They noted the photos and memorabilia at the back of the church and the history stories presented weekly. Finally, they said they were truly grateful for everyone who contributed to these events. Father Chuck read the letter in its entirety and passed it to the Secretary to include in the minutes.

**Pastor’s Report**

 The main item of news lately is the Chapter 11 bankruptcy of the Archdiocese. Fr. Chuck noted that this does not affect us as we are a separate entity. This will probably be a 3-year program in which the Archdiocese will be able to reorganize, reducing staff and adjusting its finances.

 The person next door to us along North St. wants to buy the parcel the creek is on. We will have to work with the Archdiocese and Frederick County to make this happen, if it is decided that it is possible,

 Mr. Bowman’s house construction is on hold due to the Chapter 7 bankruptcy of his daughter. The question is on the ownership of the property.

 The video that was shown at the Ball will be available to be viewed at the back of the church. It will also be made available through Flock notes.

 The time capsule will be blessed when it goes to its location on campus.

 The blessing of animals will be this coming Sunday at 2 PM.

**Committee Reports**

Bicentennial

– no report

Education

– Terri – Education Minutes for PC Meeting, October 3, 2023

Elementary Education, Stacy Wright

• Children's Liturgy started last month on Sept 17th.

• Faith Formation classes started on October 1st.

• First Reconciliation Retreat will be on October 12th

• Trunk or Treat will be on Oct. 28th and will include a pumpkin painting event.

Youth Ministry, Kevin Parker

• We have 105 enrolled in EDGE & ANCHOR, 17 less than last year. Registrations historically

continue to trickle through October, so we expect our numbers to be about the same as last year.

• Back from the Dead Cemetery Walk will be on October 29th at the historic cemetery at Seton

Shrine, Emmitsburg.

• National Catholic Youth Conference will be in Indianapolis on November 16-18th

Adult Faith Formation, Carolyn Nolan

1) RCIA has 3 candidates, and they celebrated the Rite of Welcoming on October 1

2) Bible study has 46 participants studying What We Believe

3) Church Chat's first session was October 1 and we had 30 participants

4) Rosary Rally is Friday, October 6 beginning at 7 PM

Also, the cemetery is being surveyed to plot off the new and last section in the Sacred Heart area. The dirt pile will be excavated and prepared for the final survey phase to plot the individual gravesites

Finance

– Mic notes the committee will meet on Oct 17.

Health and Safety

– Rick said the committee met on the 10th and he would send the minutes to everyone.

– The active shooter issue is a significant one. The committee would like to do some training at the church. This is basically to give them a lay of the land. Father said he would think about it.

 – We are now on our 9th door contractor. The issues are that the doors are not outside doors, they are inside doors, which is why the elements have not treated them well. The second issue is that that they are not standard size doors, they are custom doors, and poses a problem to the contractors

– We will reapply for the security grant. We will get an updated assessment. Applications are due in February or March.

Liturgy

– Deacon John said the Bicentennial Mass went very well. There were many compliments on the Liturgy, the choirs, and Archbishop Lori’s sermon. There were 5 priests, 6 deacons, and 2 seminarians.

– All Saints’ Day Masses will be at 8 AM and 7 PM. There will not be a vigil Mass.

– All Souls’ Day Mass will be at 7 PM

– Eucharistic Revival gatherings will be held the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7 PM for the Rosary and Benediction. The time for confessions will be changed to 6:30 PM.

– The next meeting is 11/13.

Maintenance

 – Doug reported that we now have a committee. It will meet soon.

Social Concerns

 – Robyn noted that the committee had not met recently. She added that the Thrift Shop had been very busy lately.

– Deacon Jerry observed that there has been a major need for the school backpack giving program. Libertytown Elementary School went from 7 recipients to 28 and Linganore HS went from 3 to 10. He will go to Flock notes to ask for the additional funds which will be necessary for this program.

Vocations

 Steve Browning passed along that there is nothing new to report.

**Old Business**

 There was no old business.

**New Business**

= Election of officers: By acclamation, Rick was elected President, Mic was elected Vice President, and Terri was elected Secretary

**Adjournment**

 Steve made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mic, and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM. The next Pastoral Council meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2023, at 7 PM in the Birch Library.

Deacon Jerry led the closing prayer.

Approved by the Council at its November 7, 2023, meeting.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Al Duke, Secretary

 Revised By:

Terri Horrigan, Incoming Secretary