

# PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES



Date: November 14, 2024

Time: 6:00 PM

## In Attendance

Present: Jeremy Thompson, Grant Carruthers, Spencer Oliva, Barb Landers, Kelli Siemieniak, Andrew Boyd, Deacon Greg Sass, Deacon John Osnes, Angela Howard, Lorinda Collings, Mary Marich, Katie Harwood

Prayer: The meeting opened and closed with a prayer.

## Commission/Committee Updates

### Worship

No report, Lorraine is out of town for a new grandbaby.

### Stewardship

Wine and Cheese is on Saturday, 11/16, at 6 PM.

### Discipleship

Faith Formation is going well. The commission reports and minutes are attached.

### Evangelization

The Rescue Project is concluding and will be offered again in the spring. November 20th will be the next Wisdom Wednesday, Shawna Hanson will present on going deeper into the Mass. There will be a Jesse Tree activity to kick off Advent on 12/2 following the 11 AM Mass. Advent materials will be out in the Narthex next week.

### Administration

The commission met last weekend. The water fountain will be installed over the Christmas break. The large outdoor sign will be upgraded to LED lights. The sign at the other end of the parking lot is being renovated and redone to replace the wood rot. The outdoor lights have been fixed and the timer replaced.

### Building Committee

Bob Weaver will finish the work in the Church on the stained glass wall. The insurance projects from hail damage are working toward completion. We will address the needs of the openers on the front door. Additional shelf space will be made in the kitchen.

### Finance Council Update

Lorinda Collings updated on the numbers from the first quarter financials. Currently, our income is over what we budgeted. Expenses are also higher than budgeted but the expenses tend to load at the beginning of the year due to book costs etc.

### **Upcoming Events**

The Annual Diocesan Appeal will happen this year.

### **New Business**

The Fall Festival did well. We will have final numbers soon.

### **Next Meeting Dates**

December 12, 2024

January 9, 2025

February 13, 2025

March 13, 2025

April 10, 2025

May 8, 2025

June 12, 2025

All meetings are an open door invitation to anyone in the parish. All meetings are at 6 PM in St. Joseph's Hall. If you have an item you would like to see on the agenda please contact Katie in the office.

## Discipleship Commission Report for November 7, 2024 meeting – Angela Howard

### I. Grade enrollment:

Grade	Sex	Enrolled	Attending	
7 <sup>th</sup> grade / Confirmation	M	8	8	
7 <sup>th</sup> grade / Confirmation	F	12	12	
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	F	5	5	
8-9 <sup>th</sup> grade	M	6 (8)	10 (11)	<i>2 are bringing non-Catholic friends; 1 of those has started to bring another. 2 regulars returned without enrolling.</i>
9-11 <sup>th</sup> grade	F	5	5	
10-12 <sup>th</sup> grade	M	3 (4)	6	<i>3 regulars returned without enrolling</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	F	7 (8)	8	<i>1 regular returned without enrolling</i>
7-12 <sup>th</sup> grade Assistant Catechists	Both	10	10	
Youth in ministries	Both	4*	4*	<i>*There are 33 total youth altar servers &amp; 1 youth lector; however, only 4 of these do not participate in other OLBH FF, are in 7-12 grade, and are not counted elsewhere in this report</i>
<b>Active youth at OLBH in grades 7-12</b>		<b>60 (64)</b>	<b>68</b>	

There is no official enrollment for Adult Faith Formation, but here are the related estimates:

Program	Avg.	Max	
Sunday FF	5	9	
Wednesday FF	8	15	
Adult Bible Studies	16	23	<i>3/5 for early bird, 10/13 for “just” men, 3/5 for women</i>
RCIA participants	3	3	<i>Details are in Bob’s report.</i>
Consecration to St. Joseph	49	49	
Wisdom Wednesday	6	6	<i>Only one WW has taken place so far. It took place on a Thursday and was about Catholicism in Public Policy. It is a major struggle to get speakers and a major struggle to get attendees on any day except Wednesday.</i>
Theology Uncapped	6	11	<i>It is a major struggle to get speakers and a consistent space this year.</i>
Bible Trivia	7 households	8 households	<i>This is a new quarterly event.</i>
Facebook Catholic trivia	Average of 2 comments per post	26 separate individuals posted	<i>28 different adults have provided answers to the questions that began September 1. Of that number, 15 are registered OLBH parishioners.</i>
Adults involved in catechesis	72	72	<i>33 in 7<sup>th</sup> grade through adult; 39 in Pre-K through 7<sup>th</sup> grade</i>
Saints and Scoundrels	6	13	
Adults actively involved in faith-in-action groups**	69	175	<i>**Cursillo (5/9 Men and 3/5 Women), Cor ad Cor (8 leaders and 15 in groups), VSI 3, Knights of Columbus (~26/119), Catholic Daughters (9/16)</i>
Adults in ministries	112	112	<i>5 altar servers, 25 Eucharistic ministers, 28 hospitality, 37 lectors, 17 sacristans</i>
<i>Please Note: Adults who attended Sacrament prep classes for Baptism or Marriage are not included.</i>			

## Discipleship Commission Report for November 7, 2024 meeting – Angela Howard

### II. Challenges from enrollment / attendance:

- Regulars are not enrolling even after multiple requests
- Sickness this Fall is consistently knocking out about three students each class for Confirmation and one or two students each meeting for the YDisciple groups.

### III. Evaluating how we are meeting Commission Goals for 2024-2025:

#### 1. *The Rescue Project*

- o *Offer at least two opportunities for The Rescue Project for the 2024-2025 year. I would like to see at least three small group leaders come out of the first group; however, I also would like to see people in the other roles (hospitality, prayer team, food, etc.) as well.*

There are two opportunities for the Rescue Project this Fall and three participants have returned from the first round. Pamela Weaver, Richard Long, and Jane Fortsch have returned to help lead. Kim Wynn also offered help and has brought her husband this time around. The joint retreat is this weekend.

#### 2. *CGS atrium*

- o *Complete Joan of Arc classroom Assess and work toward fulfillment of the needs of our half-finished Level II CGS atrium, St Joan of Arc, having it fully self-sufficient by the end of the 2024-25 school year.*
- o *Recruiting Catechists Recruit and train one more level III CGS catechist in 2025.*

This is Mary's domain.

#### 3. *Group reunions*

- o *Identify which groups in OLBH would be interested in a reunion: Sacrament recipients, ChristLife participants, RCIA, First Communion, CGS "graduates", etc., and organize and schedule the reunions.*

**Baptism, First Reconciliation, and First Communion recipients:** I'm coordinating a Jesse Tree craft day on Sunday, December 1 for the parish that especially welcomes those families with children who have received Baptism & First Sacraments within the past couple years. (Calling it a reunion will mean nothing to Baptism parents who have not met each other, so it will not be marketed that way. "Reunion" applies more for the first sacrament parents, so that verbiage will be used.)

**RCIA:** I will coordinate another Pentecost Party for the parish that especially welcomes those who have ever joined the Catholic church on the Easter Vigil

**Confirmation recipients:** I will invite recently Confirmed students to be an active part of the Confirmation retreat in February. I will also encourage all 8-12<sup>th</sup> grade students to attend the Confirmation Mass. At this point, most of all Confirmed students are continuing to be active in their faith formation and proceed with YD, Catholic school, and/or as assistant catechists.

## **PreK-6th Grade Faith Formation Details, as of 10/24/24**

### **Enrollment Stats**

**Total kids enrolled preK-6th: 108**

CGS I: 25

CGS II: 29

CGS III: 17

First Sacraments: 17

4th/5th: 11

6th: 9

### **Attendance Stats**

**Sunday: 17** students

**Wednesday: 91** students

- Early session: **42**
- Late session: **49**

### **Catechist Stats**

**Total Catechists & Assistants (+3 teens): 42**

Catechists: 17

Sunday: 3

Wednesday Early: 7

Wednesday Late: 9

Assistants: 22

Sunday: 5

Wednesday Early: 8

Wednesday Late: 9

Teen Helpers: 3

### **CGS Catechists**

Level I: 4

Level II: 5

Level III: 4 (2 training for L3, 2025-26)

## **Goals**

Previous Goal: 1-2 more L2 catechists

- CGS II Training began at Blessed Sacrament in April/May, with the second half in September/October. We had 5 catechists complete level 2 training, with 1 auditing.

Current Goal: 1-2 more L3 catechists, 1-2 more L1 catechists

- CGS 3 training will be 2025-26, however it is quite intensive and requires a huge time commitment, currently have 2 registered for L3 training.
- Complete St Joan of Arc (L2 atrium), coming along but is a big task. Seeking help from those with talents in our parish to share.

New Goal:

- Find 1-2 new catechists for L1 training (2025 in Rapid City, 2 parishioners interested)

## **Going well**

Currently 7-ish weeks in. Continued arrangement of dual formation times on Wednesday seems to be working well. Added hall monitors on Wednesday (both sessions), no more wandering kids during class. Atria are running well with great groups of kids.

## **Challenges**

Still need CGS assistants (primarily), have struggled to find help this year. Difficult time finding subs especially. Poor parking lot lighting (working on that) parents are doing better coming in to get kids this year. Water fountain non-functional, being replaced.

## **Anticipated Needs**

- L1 CGS catechists
- Completion of St Joan for full use as L2 atrium