St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council
Tuesday, February 14, 2023
Church Narthex

Members in attendance: Fr. Michael, Ruth Adamczyk, Marilyn Butler, Dave Eberle, Ellie Hammond, Bill Greinke, Bob Mitchell, Pat Rossman and Jean Weaver. Also, in attendance was Trustee, Sharon Gierahn.

Excused: Dennis Collins

Guest: Rachel Kroes

The opening prayer was led by Father Michael at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Bill Greinke to accept the January 10, 2023 minutes as read and it was seconded by Jean Weaver.

Annual Report from Religious Education: Rachael Kroes stated that our numbers are low, pre-pandemic we had about 100 kids, last year we had 79 and this year we have 75. As of now, we have no kindergarten and 8th grade Religious. The 8th grade was the class when Rebecca was here and did not have a 3rd grade Rel. Ed. as they registered very late that year and Rebecca said we were not going to have a 3rd grade class so the families went to other churches for Religious Ed. Some of the kids did come back the following year and others moved out of the area and so forth. Rachel is really trying to build family partnerships and have activities to pull the families in from the area. At Vacation Bible School (VBS) she has children from all over area. We had 40 kids participating this past year, people are coming down from Cudahy to attend. The goal for VBS this year is 70 children. There will be 2 programs: 9:00a to 12:00p and 5:30p to 7:30p for families that work. The program will run for June 12th to the 16th with a cost of $15.00 per child. This covers the cost of any products used. We also partner with St. Joe, St. John, St. Paul and St. Louis and we host it here. Volunteers from those churches do assist Rachael with VBS. Rachael kept track of how many kids were involved this past year at the activities/events she organized The total of children participating this past year was 421. 131 kids participated in the liturgy of the Word which is the first and third Sunday of the month; movie night which will be an annual event. Donations are accepted for the pizza and soda which is served during the movie along with popcorn. A parishioner donated the money for the license ($300.00)in order for us to show the movie and the license renewals are only $69.00. We had one faith family night with another one schedule for March. It's a potluck dinner and after dinner people can move from table to table to work on activities regarding the topic of the evening. She also had "Break on the Mountain" which parents can drop off their kids and have a date night for a few hours. This has gone over very well and another one is in process. The kids entered a contest to draw the cover for the Christmas bulletin. Rachel Kroes and Karen Tuinstra lead the program together. They have had the same volunteers for the past 10 years. Confirmation will be March 19th at St. Paul's @ 2:00p, we have 11 Rel. Ed. students to be confirmed, also, we have First Communion on April 22nd.

Pastor's Report: At the recent Building and Grounds meeting they came to realize that they are flaying regarding the construction of the addition to the Narthex. It was suggested that they reach out to Michael Laird, who is the lead Building and Grounds person at the Archdiocese. He has the process written down on how to begin a construction project. He will come down in March and

guide the B&G committee through the initial stages of this process. It has been decided to eliminate the building of temporary offices in the Narthex and forge ahead in building new offices off the Narthex. Mr. Laird will help with how much space/offices do we need and how to ensure the process runs smoothly. One of the difficulties is that we have is getting 3 bids on the project as per our policy. Dave Eberle noted that it will be great to have Mr. Laird working with them with his knowledge of what other parishes have done in the past. Sharon asked if we can use our money return from the LOA program towards the new construction and the response was, yes, we can.

Father received a letter from the Archdiocese regarding our assessment. It was put on hold during the pandemic and now in their review it will be delayed one more year. We are now being charged 5% for 2023-2024, effective July 1, 2024 it will increase to 5.5% and then in 2025 it will increase to 6%. The assessment is gauged on our fund raisers, festival, collections at mass and other donations. Siena gets a percentage just from our basket collections anywhere from 15 to 20%.

We have a meeting on February 28th to discuss the Siena School System and their assessment with Brad Berghouse and Brenda White. This meeting will also include the PFC. Father distributed the agenda for that evening discussion. Father also apologized for the Jan 10th mix-up that developed regarding Brad and Brenda not being able to attend the scheduled meeting.

Cascia Hall Investigative Committee (CHIC): Myra sent out prior to our meeting a detailed report. I have listed some of the highlights and contacted parish members with their background in real estate, engineering and architect (email attached)

- Caledonia has a 2035 land use plan that we need to know all the requirements regarding that ordinance
- Work with state as the traffic flow might change regarding Hwy 32 (Douglas Ave.)
- Meet with the Archdiocese on their requirements and guidelines
- Discuss the proposed timeline on action items
- In need of tax status advice

Liaison Committee Reports:

- **Human Concerns:** Jean Weaver sent out a report via email from their January meeting but mentioned some highlights listed below. (email attached)
  - Sponsored 2 social teaching nights on Sunday. One speaker was scheduled in November and another in February to discuss "Community"; the third night will be in May and the topic will be "Family"
  - RIC" Racine Interfaith Coalition was asked to participate in this meeting and their main focus is: get out to vote, immigration, environmental and social justice
  - 3 people spoke, one on immigration and the other on the history and purpose of RIC.
  - Lead poisoning is still a big issue in Wisconsin and will be the focus of their environmental work

- **Finance:** Bob Mitchell mentioned the following:
  - Increasing the festival from 3 to 4 days this is still under discussion
  - Discussion of the LOA money return

- Super Raffle will be adding a few more money prizes

- **School:** Ruth Adamczyk went to the St. Rita Royal Parent Association meeting and reported the following:
  - This group was very excited with the Advent breakfast and they had a basket raffle
  - They made $1400.00 from the raffle and gave the church $140.00 along with another $100.00 for the LOA
  - Zach Pridaulx who is the President of the RPA is working with the festival on recruiting St. Cat's students to volunteer to work. This would go to their community service hours that they need.
  - Open house at St. Rita went well. Working very hard on recruiting K3, K4 and first grade students.
  - Each class had a project to create a faith-based drawings or so forth
  - Siena School Systems attend the open house and were very impressed with the faith-based drawings and so forth.
  - At the next open house, the parish should have a table with information regarding our parish along with bulletins and other information
  - The Royal Parent group is interested in having another Open House after mass so parishioners could attend.
  - Sharon brought up that maybe Siena School Systems should have a booth or be included in the information booth to help promote the school

- **Stewardship:** Elli Hammond mentioned the following from their meeting.
  - 3 new sub-committees have been formed: Welcoming, Communication and Fundraising/Fellowship/Planning
  - Discussed the process of getting the information from the Time/Treasure/Talent form to the committees in a more timely fashion

- **Prayer and Worship:** Marilyn Butler
  - The committee is working on the plans for the Lenten season and Easter

Old/New Business:

- Discernment Committee:
  - Sharon will be on this committee along with Dennis
  - No one will speak at the 4:45p mass due to First Communion on April 22
- Planning Committee:
  - Bill, Jean and Ellie will be on this committee
  - Bill spoke of doing a survey instead of having focus groups
- Equip Day from Archdiocese: Bill rec'd an email regarding "Equip Day" the invitation is for Clergy, Parish Leaders and School Leaders. This will be a discussion on "Pastorally Responding to Gender Ideology" on Tuesday, March 28 from 9:00a to 4:00p at the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center. If you would like to attend, please go to the Archdiocese website to register, the deadline is Tuesday March 21st.

- The Eucharistic Revival Timeline: The next meeting will be held Tuesday Feb. 21st - Archbishop's Pallium Lecture. If you would like to attend, please go to the Archdiocese website to register.

Upcoming PPC Dates:

Tuesday, March 14, 2023
Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Tuesday, May 9, 2023

The closing prayer was led by Father Michael at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Rossman
Secretary
St. Rita Parish - Parish Pastoral Council