

**St. Joseph the Worker**  
**Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**  
Monday, February 27, 2024 – 5:00PM

Council Members in attendance: Fr. Joe Molloy, Sr. Judy Pfile, Rob Flesher, Rachel Green, Pat Kornfeld, Liz Reef, Debbie Shawgo, Grace Ann Thomas, Jennifer Trapani.  
Apologies: Ben Kwedar, Gavin Davis

**Opening Prayer-** Pat Kornfeld

**November Meeting Minutes** - Review and approve November 2023 meeting minutes Motion to approve made by Rob Flesher, a second to the motion by Grace Ann Thomas. All in attendance in agreement to approve.

**Fr. Joe Updates**

- Landscaping – grading and seeding will take place prior to the new sprinkler system being installed. Installation of the Sprinkler system should not be very disruptive to the landscaping. The company responsible for renovating the drainage system is responsible for getting the grading and seeding completed.
- Passing of the offertory baskets is going well. Fr. will suggest that the hospitality ministers collect the cry room first during petitions to hasten the collection time frame.
- Fr. Joe will present the second session of his 101 questions tonight at 6PM. The third session is scheduled for March 26.
- Insert in the bulletin this coming weekend will feature the three Lenten mission opportunities the priests presenting and topics.
- John Dillin from the Steier Group arriving on 2/28/2024 to begin interviews for the preliminary survey to determine feasibility for the fund raising campaign. 142 parishioners are being contacted to participate in the survey. The majority of selected parishioners have agreed to be interviewed. A few did not want to participate. Fr. Joe contacted the few to ensure that it was not something at the parish prohibiting them from interviewing
  - An in-pew survey will be conducted on March 8-9 at the masses.
  - Following the completion of the interviews and the in-pew surveys John Steier and the Steier Group will compile information from the surveys and provide Fr. Joe with a report and recommendations on the feasibility of a successful fund raiser.
- Fr. Joe is getting bids on the parking lot to include a Decatur contractor he has previous experience with and may offer a lower bid.
- Congratulations to Trenton Cattoor for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, Maya Tolentino who was selected as an NHS Scholarship Semifinalist, and Xavier Try, who qualified for the IHSA State Swimming Finals.
- The new storage shed proposed in the campaign would be built on the property south of the church. The church sold the land on which it is currently situated to the Chatham Public Library to accommodate their new construction.
- Library expansion will definitely affect our shared parking lot. Fr. Joe will look into the situation further to determine how St. Joe's will be affected and if the Library can help defray the cost of repair expenses. Fr. Joe will reach out to legal counsel for advice.

## New Business

- **Synod on Synodality Questions** - Reminder to PC members about the Synod on Synodality questions. Still time to offer answers to the two questions. Response due back to the Diocese by March 10. Council members email responses to Fr. Joe.
- **Potential for forming Divorced & Re-Married support group and the Mentors for Marriage Prep Couples** - Pat shared information gained from Gracie Ortiz, Diocesan Director, Marriage & Family Life about the Mentors for Marriage Prep couples. Council discussion wanted to know if any parishes in the diocese had already instituted the program especially in the Springfield area and if St. Joe's couples could join in another parishes program. Pat will follow-up with Gracie.

## Parishioners Back to Church –

- Always invite people back that you know. (Liz continues to ask her neighbor to join her at church.)
- Place church events in *Chatham Clarion* newspaper and have photos of past events saying thanks for your support, etc. and list church service times. Check out pricing for articles, etc. (Debbie inquiring with the Clarion).
- Have a New to the parish, or visiting the parish table in the Church with brochures, etc. (will discuss further with Fr. Joe).

*\*(Fr. Joe left the meeting to conduct the 101 questions beginning at 6PM.)*

- **2024 Year of Prayer** – Websites to checkout prayer content. Possibly placing short prayers in bulletin or on the white board, website, etc. Will consult suggestions with Fr. Joe.
- **Safe Environment Refresher** – Suggestions from council members to keep current with background 5 year rechecks for volunteers/employees and training and background checks for new volunteers and new parishioners. Suggestion to publish the online link to access the background form and training in the bulletin.

## Old Business

- Status on Digital Sign – tabled waiting for input from Ben who could not attend meeting. Suggestion for placement of “St. Joseph the Worker” on the sign similar to the Glenwood High School sign.
- Confirmation of new youth board member – Autumn Cattoor

Closing prayer

Next Meeting: March 26, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

Opening Prayer: Grace Ann Thomas