

St. Joseph joint meeting of Pastoral Council, Finance Council, and Building & Ground Minutes September 20, 2022

Father Alex opened the meeting with the prayer for a stewardship parish. The following were present: Father Alex, Father Jerry, Deacon Luke, Brenda Bland, Randy Dodd, Linda Hoehne, Kevin DeHaan, Denise Dodd, Veronica Thomas, Zac Abell, Elizabeth Bradley, Triston Jones and Justin Massman.

Also present from the Buildings and Grounds committee were William Koch, Joe Jones, Steve Bland, John Buckman, John Hess and David Hastings.

Jerry Trower was present from the Finance Committee.

PURPOSE OF JOINT MEETING

- Father Alex called this joint meeting to focus on the growth of our parish, to have transparency among the councils regarding up-coming projects, and to lead us on a path to becoming a stewardship parish.

PARISH PASTORAL PLAN REVIEW BY THE DIOCESE

- Parishioners were sent a survey a couple of weeks ago on how we are doing in various areas, as a parish. There was very little response, but the results were read by parish secretary, Cathy Fohey.

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE PARISH AND THE PROJECTS AT HAND

- Cathy Fohey read St. Joseph's financial statement aloud. The councils agreed that the parish is financially strong.
- Projects that were discussed and put in order of importance were: completely re-doing the big parking lot, replacing the front stairs to the church, and potentially adding an addition to the church near the sacristy to add bathrooms and a confessional area. The side parking lot would be included in the addition proposal. No complete plans were submitted for this last project, as discussions have just been started in the last few weeks.

MAKING OUR FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO OUR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- A request has been made from the Marion County Health Department to use a few rooms in our hall once a month for their Women's Infants and Children program to serve Palmyra Clients. The members were in favor of serving our community in this way but will wait for the proposal and details from the Health Department to make a final decision.

FOLLOW UP TO THE RECENT PROGRAM FROM THE CHANCERY STAFF REGARDING VARIOUS COUNCILS

- Father Alex reiterated that there are 3 councils at our parish: Pastoral, Stewardship, and Finance. Normally a person should only serve on one of these, at a time. There is some overlap currently, but with some leaving the Pastoral Council in a few months, that should resolve the issue.
- There are various committees that parishioners can serve on such as: Buildings and Grounds, Social Concerns, Education, etc. One person can serve in one council/ committee.
- The exiting Stewardship Council was reorganized members from Pastoral Council joining

OTHER MATTERS OF COMMON CONCERN

- There is a need for one more space for a PSR class, and it was proposed that we divide the youth room in half to accommodate this need. The discussion leaned toward finding a solution, such as a partition rather than something permanent because the youth group needs the space for activities.
- We discussed bringing back first Friday adoration to our parish. Father wants to be certain that there will be many committed parishioners to cover the hours, as in the past it was sometimes a problem. It was suggested that the various committees or groups in the parish could take turns covering the timeslots. More to come.

Father Alex closed the meeting with a Hail Mary.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bland
Pastoral Council member