

St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2024
5:30 p.m. Undercroft

The Meeting was opened at 5:30 p.m. by Msgr. Gilles with a prayer.

Members Present: Kevin Decker, Tammy Becker, Mari Erickson, Deacon Chris Kabat, Paul Jacobs, Nancy Rose, Cherie Rifenberg, Monica Leis, Lynne Ostervich, and Msgr. Gilles.

Olivia and Mike Knapik, Nick and Lauren Harding, were excused.

Joseph Nduka, Jedidiah Taubel, and Chuck Whalen were absent.

Minutes of May 7, 2024 were approved.

Old Business

New Representative to the Aquinas Catholic Schools Education Commission

Msgr. Gilles gave a short report on the first meeting. Adam Poellinger is the new Aquinas Principal. The new slogan at Aquinas has to do with being kind and no bullying. Mike Desmond is also involved in this. Paul Jacobs is our new liaison to the Aquinas Catholic Schools Education Commission. Nick Harding is our new liaison to the Aquinas Catholic Schools Finance Committee. We are now fully represented.

Front Door Ministry Update

Front Door Ministry was originally formed to help keep people in their homes. Over the years Cathedral has been helping people with rent and utilities. We have also been giving out gift cards, gas cards, and bus tokens but have ceased doing this since it was made known that these items were being used for the purchase of illegal drugs. Cathedral is now focusing primarily on rent and utilities and has a very close partnership with the St. Lawrence group from Catholic Charities. St. Lawrence is taking care of most of the vetting, encouraging people to find work while Front Door Ministry helps with rent and other expenses for people really in need.

Welcoming Bishop Battersby; Relationship to the Cathedral

Bishop Battersby has met with our confirmation students and also attended an event here at Cathedral with our young adults. Bishop Battersby is interested in being here at least quarterly. Maybe he could celebrate a noon Mass at Cathedral during the week. Bishop Battersby has been well received in the Diocese.

Our Mission and Vision Statement

A short discussion was held on our mission and vision statement. The suggestion was made that maybe we should bring someone in to help us with this project. The decision was made to currently table this for now.

Establishing a Graphic Arts Committee for Parish Logo

Kevin Decker, Christina Ghioto, Msgr. Gilles, and Jackie Craig have been working on this project. They are close to revealing the outcome. A graphic artist currently has the information and is working on it.

Pictorial Directory

We have added 90 new families to our parish in the last four years. Since our parish is growing, a directory may be an advantageous source in getting to know each other. It was suggested that we have ballots at the weekend Masses to vote for or against this project. We need to know how many parishioners will actually have their picture taken for a directory. Kevin will reach out to the Family Life Committee to take charge of this project.

Establishing a Vocations Committee/Supporting Michael Leis

The purpose of this committee will be to promote and support vocations within our parish. Msgr. Gilles is in favor of entrusting this project into the hands of the laity in our parish. It is important to support Michael in his vocation in visible and concrete ways. Msgr. does not want to see this project get dropped. We are very proud to have Michael as a native son of this parish discern a calling to the priesthood.

Creating a Directory of Cathedral Business Owners

It was decided to drop this project.

Parish Mission October 20-21 w/ Day of Equipping on October 19, 2024

Msgr. spoke about the Parish Mission and explained the importance of people registering if they are going to attend. A number is needed for food preparation.

Msgr. Gilles will also be talking about tithing in his homily this week. Young people are not familiar with this concept. Volunteering is also a concept that can be encouraged.

New Business

Review of the Beacon of Light Picnic

The venue of Myrick Park was great. Sign up genius worked well, the shelter was spacious, the set up was very well organized. We had no rain, and no hauling of tables. The raffle table was a hit, including many items generously donated by local businesses. Next year Kevin is going to form a larger committee to take charge of policing the overnight cooking of the pig. Next year's plans possibly include balloons, face painting, and a bounce house. Maybe we will be able to

relocate the music so it won't affect conversations at the tables. The new venue is more of a family oriented place and the pastoral council wholeheartedly approves of this new venue.

Update on the PCCW Officers

Congratulations to Monica Leis who has agreed to take on the office of PCCW President and to Deb Suchla who will be the new Vice President of the PCCW.

Bishop's Observation to Accommodate Those who Kneel to Receive Communion

Bishop Battersby noticed that a significant number of people are inclined to kneel when receiving Holy Communion. In light of this, Bishop Battersby is in favor of assisting those who wish to kneel. Discussion was held on the pros and cons of installing kneeling pads between the Communion Stations. Msgr. Gilles will delve further into this and consult with Bishop Battersby, the Sacred Worship Committee, and someone with carpentry experience.

New Protocol for Obtaining Ushers for Non-Cathedral, Diocesan Events

Currently, Cathedral provides our ushers for non-Cathedral events and liturgies. The new protocol will include one of our own ushers to take the lead on these events and supervise guest ushers in their ushering duties. There are approximately eight events a year where this process will be used. Also, discussion was held on the training of new ushers at Cathedral and it was suggested that a manual/check list that keeps up with current changes would help. This way all ushers will be aware of correct procedures. Kevin will talk with Zach Tudahl in regards to a manual. At Cathedral, the locking of all doors 10 minutes after Mass begins has been a great help as far as any disturbances during Mass.

The Annual Anointing Mass

Msgr. Gilles is concerned that some people attending this Mass may not be receiving the sacrament of anointing for the right reason. People are receiving this sacrament when it is not needed. Msgr. is considering just anointing people upon request.

Construction of a New Advent Wreath

Msgr. has a new Advent wreath in the works. It will be a substantial size that tilts up so all can see. It is made of wood with greenery for the wreath. Candles will stay lit continuously.

New Hospitality Sunday Structure

It was suggested that the Cathedral PCCW should handle the scheduling of Hospitality Sunday as of January 1, 2025. The PCCW will discuss this at their next meeting.

Update on the Diocesan Annual; Stewardship and Tithing

The Cathedral goal for the Annual Appeal is \$3,710 more than last year. Msgr. will encourage parishioners to be generous and touch on this subject during some of his homilies.

Update on the Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

Our total goal for Inspired by the Spirit Campaign is \$470,000. \$745,000 was pledged. We have received \$301,000. We are under target by \$116,000. There is still \$169,000 left to come in.

Update on Podcast: Coffee with Kevin

Erik Archer, Msgr. Gilles, Kevin Decker, and Zach Tudahl are working on this podcast. This year the goal is to actually get out into the community with other groups and build relationships. An example of this is working with the Warming Center again this year to provide meals through Cathedral volunteers. November meals are covered and we are currently working on the scheduling of December meals.

Covenant Hearts Marriage Enrichment Event

This will be the third Covenant Hearts event. The menu is set, the date will be February 15, 2025. Once again Castaways will be the venue. The evening will include Cocktails, Dinner, and WCI group speaking on Theology Behind Marriage. The maximum number of participants is 40.

Update on Young Adult Ministry

The young adults meet once a month. Seventy to eighty people have been attending the meetings which consist of some combination of Vespers, A Talk, Praying the Rosary, Socializing. There are also Bible Study groups meeting. Each month the meeting is held at a different place.

Lent Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper moved to Friday

Stations of the Cross will be moved to Friday. The time will be 5:00 p.m. Following Stations we will enjoy a meatless soup supper, various breads, and some socializing. Confirmation students will help with the clean up.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Tammy Becker announced that at this time Cathedral is \$39,000 more to the positive than this time last year.

The meeting was closed at 7:00 p.m. with Msgr. Gilles leading a prayer and giving a blessing.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Lynne Ostervich