

Saint Pius X
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday – February 13, 2024

Present: Deacon Kevin Fuller, Colleen Ciciulla, Kristine Ericson, Mary Ellen Freyermuth, Barb Houlden, Katherine Horvath, Cindy Johnson, Faith Kurtyka, Norah Morris, Marilyn Valerio, Robin Versch, Erica Williamson, Mary Coyle

Absent: Katy Chattin, Bill Fell, Sam Griffin, Jerry Klug, Jerry Morrissey

Before the Pastoral Council meeting began, the Student Mentoring Program (SMP) Club from St. Pius X/St. Leo School presented a recycling/composting program that they would like to implement for the school. They asked Pastoral Council for its support with their three-phase program. Pastoral Council members asked a variety of questions including how the program could be funded. Council members offered the club suggestions for implementation and their support for the project.

I. Call to Order

Pastoral Council President Erica Williamson called the meeting to order following the presentation.

II. Opening Prayer

Nora Morris led the opening prayer.

III. Introduction

Erica introduced Deacon Kevin Fuller. Deacon Fuller will act as the administrator of the parish until a new pastor is named.

IV. Roll Call

Mary Coyle recorded the names of those in attendance.

V. Review and Approve Pastoral Council Minutes – December 12, 2023

Barb Houlden moved the minutes of December 12 be approved. Robin Versch seconded the motion. The December 12, 2023 minutes were approved.

VI. Financial Report

Erica reported that there will be a letter going out to parishioners who have increased their contributions to the parish. She said the letter will update people on the current financial status of the parish. She said they may know more by Easter. The letter will be followed by a presentation from the Finance Committee at each of the weekend liturgies.

- Trustee Mary Ellen Freyermuth said “thank you!” to all the parishioners who have made the effort to improve the parish’s financial status. She reiterated that improving the parish’s financial status is an ongoing project. She said the school is not ready to contribute to the parking lot fund, but the parish does have the money. She said the “Parking Lot Fund” envelope in the packet may be changed to “Parish Center Renovations”.
- Cindy Johnson said the second step is reaching out and inviting people to join the parish.

- Marilyn Valerio said many of the phone numbers of past parishioners are not good anymore. She asked how we can reach out personally.
- Deacon Kevin said a good term to use for reaching out is “stewardship”.
- Cindy said the Stewardship Office for the Archdiocese has lots of good resources for reaching out.

VII. School Update

A. Principal Search Committee

Erica reported that the Principal Search Committee has been interviewing candidates. On Monday, February 19 a “Listening Session” is scheduled for meeting second-round candidates from 7-8:30 p.m. Erica said a decision on the principal may be made by March 1. (NOTE: Announced on February 19 - Katy Chattin has been named as Principal of St. Pius X/St. Leo School.)

B. Student-led Mass

The 9:30 a.m. liturgy on February 18 will be led by the Kindergarteners and 5th grade students. Milk, juice and coffee will be available in the narthex after Mass.

VIII. Festival

Erica, Kristy Ericson, and Karen Hosier are the chairpersons for the Parish Festival on June 2.

Erica said there will be some changes from previous Festivals:

- All expenditures will need pre-approval to better track how the money is being spent.
- There will be new games, but no inflatables.
- The committee is working on sponsorships.
- The raffle amounts may change.
- There may be a cornhole tournament for adults.
- There is a possibility of festival participants using a credit card for purchases.
- A Game Booth Lead Captain is needed as well as a captain for the Dime Toss and the Corn Hole Tournament.
- The festival goal is to raise \$70,000 for the parish.

IX. Other

A. Pasta Friday

The Pastoral Council is scheduled to serve at Pasta Friday on March 8. Pasta Fridays are also scheduled on February 23, March 1, and March 15.

B. 70th Anniversary

The celebration of St. Pius X 70th Anniversary will kick off in May with a special liturgy. Many activities are planned for the celebration and include –

- Bulletin Announcements
- 70 Acts of Kindness
- T-shirts
- Parish Jubilee Prayer
- Parish Picnic in August near the feast day of St. Pius X
- History and pictures in the display case in the narthex
- Participation in the Dundee and/or Benson parades

The 70th anniversary committee will meet again in April. Colleen and Jerry Morrissey are serving as the chairpersons.

C. Open Pastoral Council Positions for September 2024-June 2027

Erica said four new Pastoral Council members need to be selected in the Spring of 2024. There will be notices of the open positions in the parish bulletin.

D. March Prayer

Barb Houlden volunteered to offer the opening prayer at the March meeting.

X. Meet & Greet

- Katherine Horvath said she was asked if/when sharing the cup of Precious Blood at Holy Communion would come back. Deacon Fuller said that would be the pastor's decision.

Katherine was asked the difference between the terms "priest in residence" and "sacramental priest". Deacon Fuller said Father Mario is serving as the sacramental priest for St. Pius X until a pastor is named in the spring. He is not in residence at St. Pius.

A parishioner asked where the stipends for funerals, weddings, etc. go. The stipends go to the presider. The funds do not go into the parish operating budget.

- Barb was asked about Father Joe. A parishioner asked if an update on Father could be given. Cindy Johnson said parishioners should have received an initial email from Father Joe. No additional information will be shared – from the pulpit or in the bulletin.
- Erica was asked about increasing the number of parishioners. She said a membership group could be formed to welcome newcomers to the parish and to keep in contact with them. Mary Ellen said the person who asked about membership should outline the needs of newcomers and draw up formal guidelines for welcoming new parishioners. Cindy Johnson said this is not something the staff could take on as a project.
Erica was also asked why we don't stand for our Parish Prayer after Communion. Deacon Fuller said there is no liturgical protocol for this.

XI. Closing

Pastoral Council member prayed the Parish Prayer to close the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

XII. Next Meeting

The Pastoral Council will meet on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

The Meet/Greet will be after the liturgies on March 2 & 3

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Coyle
Recording Secretary