



**ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
OCTOBER 5, 2021**

Members Present:

Rev. Gabriel Baltés, OSB
Mike Budd
Maureen Cunningham
Andrew Hackley
Mary Beth Kerner
Tom Kmiecik
Mary Agnes Laguatan

Bob Miller
Rev. James Radek
Jaqueline Skelly
Tracy Szalek
Bradley Vaupel
Matt Zurek

Absent:

Mathew Klody
Dave Mankowski
Dan O'Connor
Andrea Uribe
Leanne Van Gronigen
Dick Webb

I. OPENING

Evening Prayer was held in Room 22 of the Parish Center at 7:00 p.m.

The Meeting began at 7:19 p.m.

II. OLD BUSINESS

September minutes were approved by Mike Budd and Maureen Cunningham.

III. PASTOR'S ADDRESS

Staff and Pastoral Council Updates

The two new Pastoral Council members, Bradley Vaupel and Jacqueline Skelly, introduced themselves.

Fr. James Radek has been assigned as a Sacramental Minister for our parish.

Director of Marketing and Special Events, Kim Clements, has taken a new job. We will be searching for someone to fill this position.

CCS Update

CCS Fundraising has a listing of major donors to the parish, and will soon launch their feasibility study regarding the possible church renovations.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on Active Parishioners

At the last Pastoral Council meeting, Fr. Gabriel distributed a questionnaire to the Council members regarding the minimal requirements for a person to be considered an active member of the parish. Father asked the Council members for their thoughts. This topic is especially relevant given that the School Board and Finance Council are concerned that a large number of school families are receiving the school discount given to registered parishioners, but these families are not contributing to the parish to help replenish the parish subsidy for the school. We also have not charged the “out-of-parish” tuition rate in a few years.

The Council Members shared the following:

- There seems to be a lack of unity/connection between the school and parish. School families are dedicated to volunteering for school activities, but seem to disappear after their last child graduates and don't remain active in the parish.
- It may be necessary to put certain requirements in place that would pertain to all parishioners who wish to remain being considered “active parishioners”, such as utilizing the parish offertory envelopes, even if one is not able to contribute monetarily.
- Outreach/service opportunities could be a way to bring parish and school families together for a common cause, to share their talents and time. We need to grow parish involvement as a whole. Certain mobile phone “apps” could be of help with this, such as “My Parish” or “Flocknote”.
- A large number of school families do not attend Sunday Mass at all. This is a reflection of a societal problem of the lack of a sense of obligation and a disordered desire to “feel good/entertained” at Mass.
- Obligation, like the Sunday Mass obligation, is not a bad thing, and is a part of life. We have all kinds of obligations, eg. laws, paying bills, etc. that cannot simply be ignored. Why is the third commandment any different? The presumed reinstatement of the Sunday obligation would be a good time to discuss all this.
- The priority needs to be a relationship with Christ, and the gift of our faith. We can't force people to practice their faith, they have to want it for themselves. An invitation from others is important.
- The school is a ministry of our parish, and cannot be self-sufficient. The parish should be encouraged to support school activities when possible, such as attending school sporting events, etc.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be on Tuesday, November 9th at 7:00pm in Parish Center Room 22.

VI. CLOSING

Fr. Gabriel imparted a blessing upon the Council Members, in lieu of the formal installation of new members.

The meeting ended at 8:58 p.m. Closing prayer was the Salve Regina.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Beth Kerner
Recording Secretary