



**ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Sept. 5, 2023

Members Present:

Rev. Gabriel Baltés, OSB
Mike Budd
Maureen Cunningham
Jeremy Jackson
Mat Klody

Tom Kmiecik
Andrea Uribe
Leanne Van Gronigen
Brad Vaupel
Mitch Whorlow

Absent:

Doug Becker
Gary Emore

Jacqueline Skelly
Dick Webb

I. OPENING

Evening Prayer was held in Room 24 of the Parish Center at 7:05PM, and was led by Father Gabriel.

The Meeting began at 7:15PM.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

May minutes were approved by Tom Kmiecik, and seconded by Mat Klody.

III. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review of the Calendar for the Year

b. Adoration Schedule

Both the Meeting calendar and the Adoration calendar were discussed. Any changes will be finalized by Maureen, and forwarded to Karen for dissemination.

c. Fall and Winter Driving Schedule

Father Gabriel will speak with Gary about whether or not he needs a car ride to Parish Pastoral Council meetings.

d. Pastoral council Member Input

Mary Agnes Laguatan and Erin Hudetz have been replaced by Jeremy Jackson on the Parish Pastoral Council. He will represent both Finance Council and School Board. Book discussions of *The Shattered Lantern* will resume with one chapter

being covered at each monthly meeting. Maureen will send out a schedule of readers for Vespers. Father Gabriel reviewed how Vespers are prayed for the Council. Leanne and Karen will lead the Vespers prayers at the October Parish Pastoral Council Meeting. Finally, Maureen suggested that the Council focus on the Strategic Plan for this year, but she is open to other topics, suggestions and even magazine articles. Father Gabriel will meet with Maureen before the meeting to review the agenda and topics to be covered.

IV. PASTOR'S UPDATE

a. Capital Campaign

Father Gabriel reported all is going well with the campaign. A final letter was mailed to all registered parishioners with a list of the names of campaign donors. These names will appear on a plaque in church when the remodeling is complete. The letter contains a polite, final request for donations to anyone who would still like to participate in the campaign. Mike inquired about the work schedule. Father Gabriel stated that the final renderings and a report will go to the Diocese in October for their approval. After their approval, contracts can be secured. The hope is for the work to begin in spring of 2024 and conclude by that September or October. Funerals that are scheduled during this time period may be held at St. Procopius Abbey.

b. Artwork—Statue and Panels

The new statue of Mary and the child Jesus was dedicated at Mass on Aug, 15th, the Feast of the Assumption. 18 saints will be featured on glass panels that will be installed in October. Lighting will be installed to illuminate the panels. Father Gabriel hopes to bless the panels on the feast of All Saints, Nov. 1.

c. Eucharistic Revival

We are in the Parish phase of the Eucharistic Revival. Last year was the Diocesan phase, and next year will be the National phase. Father Gabriel had an article in the Sept. 3rd bulletin that highlighted all our parish efforts for the Eucharistic Revival. Among those efforts are Eucharistic Encounter Evenings that begin Oct. 8, and are held monthly from 4PM to 5PM in the church.

d. The Mass—Then, Now and Why It Matters

Father Gabriel will present this topic as a 5 week course beginning Sept. 13th. After January, Konnor Damery will be presenting classes to interested parishioners on adult faith formation topics. Jeremy inquired if Father Gabriel's course could be videotaped and put on YouTube for parishioners who cannot attend the class in person.

e. Centennial Committee

This committee, after a summer break, will resume meeting on Sept. 11th. The Centennial will kick-off on Dec. 14, 2023, and conclude on Dec. 14, 2024. Among their plans are a kick-off celebration, SJA spirit wear with the Centennial logo, a

keepsake booklet being assembled by Ruth Nelson, and an ending Mass followed by Sunday Brunch.

f. Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest will be held on Sept. 30th from 5-9PM. Tricia DiChristofano is overseeing the committee that is doing the planning, and has enlisted the Knights of Columbus to help. Oktoberfest is an Adults Only event, and will feature a live band. Tickets sales start this week.

g. Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Father Gabriel has materials, calendar dates, and volunteers. He will train the volunteers, and hopes to launch the program in October.

h. Personnel Matters

Konnor Damery will speak at all the Masses on the weekend of Sept. 9th and 10th. Konnor oversees OCIA and Adult Faith Formation. Chase Stevens is the new Director of Religious Education. He will coordinate First Communion and Confirmation with the school and RE program. Chase will also work with the RE teachers, and oversee all RE students. The school is still looking for a junior high religion teacher. Father Gabriel is teaching two classes with confirmation students at the school. Chase Stevens and Alex Gervacio will teach junior high RE. Lynne Passarella has resigned as receptionist/secretary at the Parish Office. Her last day will be Sept. 15th. Andrea asked when Catechesis of the Good Shepherd would resume. Father Gabriel hopes to resume the program later in the year with Chase overseeing it, but it requires a teacher certified in the program.

V. SCHOOL BOARD AND FINANCE COUNCIL UPDATES

Nothing at this time.

VI. DISCUSSION OF THE PARISH PILLARS

Three copies of Parish Pillars/Strategic Plans were shared via email by Doug Becker. There was consensus among PPC members that the concise plan from Detroit has many favorable points, particularly the focus on Ignatian values. After much discussion on how to go about revising the SJA Strategic Plan, it was agreed upon that the PPC should tackle one pillar per meeting. Parish staff members who are subject matter experts on a particular pillar should be contacted for their input prior to the upcoming meeting. Father Gabriel will let Maureen know which staff members to contact regarding each pillar. The PPC also would like to include a focus on the Benedictine tradition in the new Strategic Plan. Father Gabriel will provide a list of Benedictine traditions/values for the next meeting.

VII. BOOK DISCUSSION

Chapter 4 of *The Shattered Lantern* will be reviewed at the next meeting. Mike Budd is the facilitator.

Next Meeting

The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting will be on Monday, Oct. 3, 2023 at 7:00PM in Room 24.

VIII. CLOSING

The meeting ended at 9:05PM. The closing prayer for the Eucharistic Revival was provided by Father Gabriel.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Eldrenkamp

Recording Secretary