

St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish
Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: October 19, 2021

Call to Order: 7:00pm

Prayer: Father Jeff

PPC Members: Don Kuntz; Bob Ostertag (excused); Sylvia Ruthven; Dave Haller; Doreen Heuser (excused); Rose Humbert; Kathy Nocks, Marianne Lienesch; Doug Lohman; Hank Menninger (excused); Pam Reiter

Previous PPC Meeting Minutes: September Minutes approved and were distributed. Motion to approve by D. Haller; 2nd M. Lienesch

Staff Report: Religious Ed/Youth – T. Palmer. She has been trying to unite school and parish more with the children. Both 1st and 2nd grade classes have been split. She has been getting the kids to come to parish for something besides Mass. She has been having a religious theme with all the groups including Jr. High. T. Palmer reports she has been having the high school students help with activities for service work. Parents are the key, she says, they help children enjoy religious activities along with fun activities. Father stated he has been pleased with the progress T. Palmer has made and is making with the kids. //She held the first Junior High Youth Group (grades 7 & 8) get together. They learned about proofs of God and played Twisted Soccer. There were 14 students. She has ten students registered for the next religious activity. //There are three return servers for Mass and six new servers who have been trained along with new lectors for school Masses. //She reports Confirmation and First Reconciliation parent meetings went well and were well attended by parents. //A new staff group has been established at the school that will focus on activities related to the feasts and holy days of each month. //Future activities: Confirmation students will assist at the Reach Out Pregnancy Center Banquet; A Rosary Rally for Life after the 11:15 am Mass with Confirmation students; Confirmation Sponsor/Candidate meeting held on 10-14; a pumpkin event for grades 6 –8 on 10-29.

Pastor's Report: Father stated although he is pleased SJB will be a parish unto itself, we need to keep our focus on bringing more people to Jesus and into the parish. He wants SJB to radiate the light of Christ. The problems he sees are the same throughout the world. He wants SJB to have a mind set on being challenged and not just sit back and watch. We need to lead and bring people to Jesus. Father thinks we have a lot going on in reaching out to the community. He talked about how we can reach new people in the area and new people in our parish. He believes with the help of God SJB will reach our new goals set forth by the Beacons of Light. //He talked a bit about the Ministry Fair and how that can show people what is available to join and areas needing help. //He talked about Jeremy Helms and how he will be able to address some Beacons of Light and some PPC election ideas at our PPC Retreat on 10/30/21. //He then switched to the school. He discussed how the first quarter looks good. He and N. Herrmann are working on ways to increase the numbers attending school. //He then talked a bit about January 1, 2022; falling on a Saturday for first time in a long time and asked if PPC thought we should still hold 4 pm Mass. PPC was in agreement we should hold 4 pm Mass on January 1, 2022. He discussed the Christmas Mass schedule. There was some discussion about PPC having a booth in the Ministry Fair. However, there was a consensus to wait until next time since it is so close to the date of the Ministry Fair.

Business Manager Report: M. Newton began with a summary of August financials. Church: YTD revenue is significantly above budget due to festival and pledge payments, while expenses are lower than budget driven by utilities and the festival. School: YTD revenue is favorable, due to the timing of tuition payments. Expenses are also favorable mostly due to timing: a quarterly payment to Butler County for teachers and the floor expense,

both budgeted in August but paid in September. //Total Church, School, Cafeteria: YTD: Both revenue and expenses are favorable with some due to timing and some real time. // Statement of Financial Position: The August cash balance increased significantly from July, driven by the semi-annual new church pledge check and August profitability. //A \$200K prepayment of the new church loan occurred. //Buildings and Grounds: the kick-off of parish office phone replacement effort along with normal work orders which were completed. //School: Applied for cafeteria new equipment grants for convection ovens and range. We need to wait until grant decisions are made (sometime in December) to order the equipment. // Church: We had a successful church picnic with \$2,600 in contributions. There are some new church lighting schemes in effect. //Other: Super Raffle mailing has been sent out. The drawing will be 11-17. //Drive through Turkey Dinner set for 11-14.

Pastoral Associate: E. Hollis has finished scheduling and adjusting liturgical ministers and greeters for Masses. //The Small Faith Groups have resumed. // Mass and Prayer/Communion Services at Shawneesprings and Harrison Trails have been established. //The Ministry Festival was successful. // Meetings with young adults and adults are ongoing. //Collections of donations continue for El Salvador Twinning Project. He is now working on trip to visit El Salvador for winter of 2022// Breaking Open the word Bible Study has begun. // E. Hollis has confirmed This City, His City ministry will resume. //The Bicentennial Day of Service on 10-9-21 was successful with more than 30 people participating.

School Principal: N. Herrmann reports there are still no student or staff cases of COVID. //The first PTC meeting was held with great attendance. //Students had school picture day. //The teachers are meeting monthly for a Liturgy Meeting to plan school wide projects, prayers, etc. for each month (lead by T. Palmer). During the month of October, the school is focused on praying for all babies -- born and unborn. //N. Herrmann attended several principal meetings this month: the Cluster meeting, the Superintendent advisory meeting, the AOC principal meeting and Beacons of Light principal meeting (in September). //The PTC walk-a-thon was successful, and the school raised more than the goal of \$12,000 by raising \$20,000. //Kindergarten and first grade went on first field trips since March 2020.

Religious Education: See T. Palmer Staff report above.

Music Director: M. Johnson began organ accompaniment to Thursday 6 pm daily Mass. Thursday Mass attendees are very appreciative. He continues to prepare music for the Masses at Shawneesprings and Harrison Trails. // Prayer in the Spirit of Taizé was held on 10-8. On 10 23/24 he provided the accompaniment for the Anointing of the Sick during all weekend Masses.

Building and Grounds: See report from Business Manager.

Parish Life: P. Reiter reports: They worked at Pumpkin Festival helping the Lohman's Booth. //Lunch was provided for Bountiful Hearts on 9-25. //Hosted the Archdiocese "let Your Service Shine Day on 10-9. This was held at Harrison Township Civic Center. Volunteers included Knights of Columbus and many parishioners. //The JULIETS met on 9-23 with 16 ladies at Monk's Kitchen. //Chocolate, Coffee and Crafts will change to the Breakfast Blub. The first gathering will be on 12-11 the restaurant will be determined later. //They participated in the SJB 1st Annual Ministry Fair. // The group is looking for new members and new ideas for fund raising.

Reports from Social Action: K. Nocks reports: Bountiful Hearts: September 25. Hosted by the Parish Life team. Social Action team delivered meals to 42 homebound. Members of SVdP Society helped with boxes of food. The next meal will be 10-23. //Feeding Hungry Children: They will continue to deliver meals during fall and Christmas break. There are still funds available from ongoing donations and the availability of funds from the federal child care credit has been helpful to families. //Community garden: Garden has been harvested and all are grateful to eight capable gardeners who made this project successful feeding more than 300 persons fresh

produce during summer. //Hope's Journey: Sufficient funds are raised to begin the men's home but there is a need for an appropriate location. They have developed roles for operation of the home and the job fair at Harrison High School has enabled them to connect with many local employers willing to hire men from the home. //Spanish Mass: There is a regular group of about 30 to 40 who attend regularly with Father Shine as celebrant. //Transportation: J. Enginger reports there is availability to transport people to and from appointments. //Stephen Ministry: This is a great support ministry to help those struggling with life issues. More advertising and outreach for ministers and care givers is being planned. There will be bulletin articles encouraging those who want to meet with one of the care givers to call the parish and make a connection for them. They participated in the Ministry Fair. There will be a box in the church gathering area for those who would like to speak to a care giver to place their name and contact information. //El Salvador: Letters have gone out for annual appeal to each sponsor for support of children in sister parishes of Santa Cruz and Our Lady of Guadalupe. The generosity of SJB parishioners and friends have enables more than 120 children to accomplish their hopes of a better future. The next visit to El Salvador is January 18 –26, 2022. The visit will coincide with the beautification of Padre Rutilio Grande, a Jesuit priest who was assassinated for speaking out for the poor and oppressed. //Blood drive: The Hoxworth Blood Drive in July was a success. There were 38 donors. A blood drive was held 10-21 at the parking lot of the new church.

Athletic Association: The COVID regulations in our gym follow CDC guidelines and anything from Hamilton County, the state or the Archdiocese. There will be markers laminated and hung on all gym doors. . // M. Newton will be setting up as STJB coordinators using e mail addresses. //Volleyball schedules are being finalized. //Basketball registration is closed. There is a need for additional players to round out teams. //Revenue opportunity discussions: There will be some discussion per meeting to allow ideas for raise additional revenue. //New fields: D. Losekamp has excavation contracts. // E. Hollis is putting together a 20-minute video for coaches to watch once a year. E. Hollis is also gathering a list of prayers to provide coaches. //Next meeting: 11-1-21

Old Business: PPC Elections. We reviewed the committee's document and discussed the nomination procedure. According to M. Newton only four parishioners made comments on PPC proposed new way to elect candidates for PPC. PPC decided to wait until we hear from Jeremy Helmes on the Retreat. He will address other ways parishes get candidates and elect PPC members. //Retreat is set and several people will bring items for breakfast. It was decided not to have lunch and leave at 1 pm instead of 2pm. //There was a question to M. Newton about how many people watch Mass on YouTube. M. Newton said it varies week to week and is between 22 and 26 people. He stated less are watching since people are coming back to church. //COVID safety rules: It was decided by Staff that the church has sufficient space and masks for those who want to sit social distance and wear masks.

New Business: None

Adjournment: Motion: D. Lohman; 2nd R. Humbert

Prayer: Father Jeff

Submitted: S. Ruthven, Secretary 10-19-2021