

St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish
SJB Parish Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes
BRING PEOPLE - BODY, MIND AND SOUL - TO CHRIST

Meeting Date: October 19, 2023

Call to Order: 7:13 pm

Prayer: Father Paul Ruwe

PPC Members: Dave Haller (excused); Doreen Heuser; Sylvia Ruthven; Louis Egbert; Kathy Nocks; Teresa Meyer; Doug Lohman; Hank Menninger; Mary White (excused); Roxann Rybolt (excused); Logan Montgomery; Pete Hebauf

Previous PPC Meeting Minutes: September Meeting Minutes have been approved and distributed. Motion to approve: 1st H. Meninger; 2nd L. Montgomery

D. Heuser (Vice Chair) chaired the meeting. D. Haller was out of town

Staff Report: J. Schaefer (Director of Religious Education) He began by updating PPC on recent activities concerning events for the youth being held on Sundays. All have been going well with between 30 to 35 attending. He recently took the Youth to Frisbee Gold at Miami Whitewater park and then had their monthly meeting. He's currently working on holding pumpkin carving. He was looking for pumpkins and D. Lohman suggested he come see him at Logan's Garden Center. In September he formed some small discussion groups with various topics, such as scripture, prayer, faith and Mary. The goal is to help the Youth talk about their faith with others in the group. //He has invited Net Ministries (a group of ten young people who travel around the country giving lectures and talks to Youth about the Catholic religion and faith.) //The Youth are planning a fund-raising babysitting night where parents can go out and they will baby sit. //He's planning the first CREA meeting of the year. //He continues planning school Masses and getting materials ready for the school religion teachers. //He held a Confirmation Parent/Candidate night to prepare for Confirmation and get information to everyone about the year's schedule for sacrament. //The Confirmation candidates worked at the Bountiful Hearts meal in September. //School and PSR classes continue on Sunday morning and evening. Currently he has 145 students attending the 9:50 am to 10:15 am classes on Sunday. He has finished ordering text books for PSR including the ones who registered late. // He invited catechists to come for the Catechetical Blessing at Mass on 9-17. // He is looking for PSR registrations and following up with OCIC students to receive sacraments at Easter. //He met with Staff at Diocese for Beacons of Light updates. // D. Heuser wanted to express her mother's thanks for the cards the Youth send to the elderly parishioners. //J. Schaefer and Father discussed the need for more volunteers to help with PSR.

Pastor's Report: Father Paul discussed the ongoing search for a Music Minister. There are two performance interviews coming up next week. K. Nocks asked if this is the first time SJB has gotten this far with a potential Music Minister. Father stated no, there have been others through two rounds of interviews. // He then began talking about the All Saints and All Souls days and Mass times. All Saints Mass times are: 7 am; 12 pm; and 7 pm. // On 11-15-23 there will be a first reconciliation for second grade. //He then switched the subject to the continuing work on staff development. The AOC liaison will meet with the SJB parish staff on 10-26-23. They will talk about leadership strengths as SJB leadership looks forward to the third year and moving on from Leadership to culture. He stated even though SJB is not part of a parish of families, SJB still follows the Beacons of Light schedule. Father then talked a bit about SJB's first report from Beacons of Light. L. Egbert asked about the other parish families and if they were on their first report from Beacons of Light. Father stated all parishes and families of parishes had to send in their first report and now Beacons of Light is making comments on those goals, etc. //Father talked about the convocation of priests which took place on 10-17-23. He stated it was a great meeting. He felt the meeting was helpful to all regenerating their faith, hope and passion. He stated

priests were able to talk about their individual lives and daily problems and struggles without having additional work added to their shoulders, as has been the case at priest gatherings since Beacons of Light began. H. Menninger talked a bit about the recent death and funeral of Father H. Meyer. He attended the funeral and was so impressed with all the priests who were there that discussed how Father Meyer had touched their lives. H. Menninger then stated how he wanted Father Ruwe to know that we parishioners sometimes continue to bring Father our perspective and problems, but seldom relate how much father is appreciated. //Father then moved on to the challenge the church has with the November campaign to vote “No” on Issue 1. He stated the signs were all gone by the 11:15 am Mass; however, new signs have been ordered and will be here for Sunday Mass. He has been working on two homilies concerning the Ohio Constitution issue on the ballot to be shared this coming weekend and the weekend before the elections. There was some discussion on various religions and their perspective on this issue and the issue of when life begins.

Business Manager Report: M. Newton had the financial summary for August 2-23. He began by expressing his gratitude to the American Legion who had just presented SJB with \$5,000 award for the sports fields. //He then went on with discussion of financials. Church: August collections were above budget, which was assisted by three large donations. Other income was below budget due to low new church donations. August expenses were below budget due to favorable wages and benefits offsetting high maintenance costs. YTD revenue was favorable as strong collections were above budget, offsetting low new church donations. YTD expenses were favorable due to favorable wages and benefits offsetting high maintenance costs. //School: August revenue was unfavorable due to the timing of tuition payments. August expenses were also unfavorable due to a large FY 2023 Luebbe accrual (for Geil building HVAC) paid in August, but cleared in July, and the cost of door security film charged to the security grant. YTD revenue was unfavorable due, again, to the timing of tuition payments. YTD expenses were favorable due primarily to the Butler County bill budgeted in August but not paid until September. L. Egbert asked about the Butler County bill for Outsource teachers from Butler County. M. Newton explained this is for the salary of two teachers who are part time. This is the third year to use these same teachers and has helped tremendously by not having to pay two full-time teachers for two subjects (music and gym). //Total Church, School, Cafeteria: While revenue was at plan, unfavorable expenses resulted in unfavorable income. //Statement of financial position: August cash balance decreased due to the monthly loss. //M. Newton then talked about an additional \$100,000 donation from the Luebe Foundation for use in the church and school. //He stated the 22/23 delinquent tuition accounts are paid. //Church: SVdP moved into the new building. There was a dedication and blessing by Father Ruwe on Saturday, 10-14-23. //B&G had nothing to report. School: Tuition changes resulting from Ed Choice Scholarship changes have been sent to all school families and he is awaiting results. //Other: Parish picnic was appreciated by everyone; attendance appeared to be slightly down from last year. //Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): Finance: September reconciliation; exploration of Employee Retention Tax Credit; Church: October Mass attendance count is ongoing. B&G: continue rectory plumbing work; response to AOC Gallagher Bassett Risk Control Evaluation Project. //School: Rollout of Ed Choice Program changes; planning \$100K security grant spend; alternative fee payment platform (K-12). //Other: Music Ministry hiring; Athletic fields fundraising. Cemetery Board meeting. // **How has he impacted the STJB Vision this month? (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ)?** M. Newton has impacted the vision with continuous focus on maintaining financially stable parish through adequate collections, expense control, balance sheet management and budgetary accuracy. Enhancing our infrastructure through effective use of donated funds.

Pastoral Associate Minister: T. Palmer reported eight people plus J. Davis and Father Shine attended the first Spanish small faith group meeting. She thanked J. Davis for his exceptional effort in getting this group started. //October music and musicians have been scheduled. // OCIA Rite of Welcoming occurred on 9-24-23 at the 11:15 AM Mass. There are six adults working toward their entrance into Full Communion with the catholic Faith which is scheduled for November. // Wednesday night study group began “Eternal Rest – The Art of Dying” on 9-20-23. // Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): Blessing of the pets 10-4-23; Young Adult Red River

Gorge trip 10-7; Preparing for Advent; Continuing to support the parish and school music ministry. // **How has she impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** She impacted the Vision through Body, mind and Soul by taking care of her own body on vacation. She also worked with a volunteer who was discerning a new volunteer opportunity helping with distribution of the Eucharist to those in a hospital. After their discussion, it was decided to proceed with this opportunity and bring Christ to those who cannot make it to a Sunday Mass.

Music Director: No report (looking for new Music Director)

Principal: Nichole Herrmann reports she ordered \$4,000 worth of materials to stock the new Makerspace area. This will be open for use during the 2nd quarter of the year. The PTC has designated an additional \$10,000 to be spent for the Makerspace area. // Attended AOC principal professional development on motivating teachers and teacher retention. // SJB student completed the following drills in September: bus evacuation; lockdown; and fire. // Attended MAP data training. // Attended Non-public school workshop about government funds and processes. // Submitted all Ed Choice scholarship applications to ODE. Around 1/3 of the applications have been processed and we are still waiting on the remaining applications to be reviewed. // Students completed Fall MAP testing and performed higher than the normal for the state of Ohio and the normal of all Archdiocesan schools. // Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): Ongoing school security projects via security grant; internal accreditation is expected to complete in December; Hiring of additional administrative support to execute the Ed Choice scholarship program; Exploring FACTS student information system for 24/25 school year; Multiple Archdiocesan and State Reports due in October; Additional school security grant application due in November; Walk-a-thon on 10-6-23; Fall brake on 10-13 thru 17-23; End of 1st quarter 10-13-23. // **How has she impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?** We have impacted the SJB vision by continuing to explore and implement new opportunities and resources for students and staff.

Director of Religious Education: See staff report above.

Athletic Association: The winter sports schedule has been confirmed with Southwest Schools for Harrison Jr. High. // Financial report: Athletics is profitable. Fundraising made a significant difference in the profitability. // New field update: \$31K has been raised so far. // Next steps: Publish on Athletics social media, flyers in school Friday folders, e mail through Sports Connect to all past Sports families. // Longer term considerations: Mailer via Archdiocese, fundraiser specific to fields. // Baseball update: Stricker family has baseball equipment to donate if we need it. // Soccer Update: Jags are having great season. // Volley Ball Update: Girls: Practice starts; Pre-season tournaments are available and coaches have been made aware. // Boys: No update. // Basketball Update: Boys: Rosters need to be sent to coordinate uniforms; Coaches have their rosters and rule changes; working on schedule evaluations for 5 and 6 grades. Girls: need date to open registration. // Social Media update: Athletics field details with link will be on We Share to donate; Keep posting athletics information. // Fundraisers: Received a check from Florence Y'alls for \$178.50. // **How has this group impacted the STJB Vision: (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ)?** Soccer program continues to evolve, and non-school enrolled parishioners participate are growing.

Building and Grounds: See M. Newton's report.

Social Action Committee: K. Nocks thanked the Liturgical Ministers who provided the September Bountiful Hearts meal. They served 104 neighbors. // Stricker picnic was a success. // Lohman's Garden store provided pumpkins for all children who are served through the Feed the Children group. // SVdP pantry was opened and Father Ruwe gave a blessing. // Social Action Committee has seen a greater need for helping people with

Duke bills and more food assistance during the past month. //The trailer will be at the school parking lot on 10-28/29 to clean out closet. //Coat rive for coat donations will be at the end of November. The coat give away will be at school gym on 12-9-23. //They are making calls for information to fill out tags for the church giving tree.

Parish Life: D. Lohman stated Parish Life will be working at Pumpkin festival at Loman’s booth. The money earned will go to Parish Life. //Trunk or Treat scheduled for 10-29 in school parking lot. //He thanked those who helped with the special anniversary recognition and luncheon on 10-8-23 at the 11:15 am Mass.

Old Business: There was some discussion on the location of the sports fields. The bike rack will be discussed later between Father Ruwe and M. Newton. //D. Heuser called for volunteers for the PPC Meet and Greet scheduled or 11-4/5: Saturday 4 pm: T. Meyer; Sunday 8:30 am L. Montgomery; Sunay 11:15 am: L. Egbert, D. Lohman.

New Business: D. Heuser reminded PPC of our usual sponsorship of Bountiful Hearts Meal in April of 2024. All agreed we would participate.

Adjournment: Motion: D. Lohman; 2nd L. Egbert

Prayer: Father Ruwe

Submitted by: S. Ruthven 10-17-23