

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

Meeting Date: January 17, 2023

Call to Order: 6:58 pm

Prayer: Father Paul Ruwe

PPC Members: Dave Haller; Doreen Heuser; Sylvia Ruthven; Louis Egbert; Rose Humbert; Kathy Nocks; Marianne Lienesch; Teresa Meyer; Doug Lohman; Hank Menninger (excused); Mary White

Previous PPC Meeting Minutes: November Minutes have been read and distributed. Motion to approve minutes by: D. Heuser; 2nd by M. Lienesch

Visitors: Mr. and Mrs. Maris

Staff Report: Director of Music Ministry – Michael Johnson – He began by talking about Christmas and the challenges it has with the environment (decorations) and music. He also talked about the black bunting being placed over the outside doors in honor of the death of Pope Benedict XVI. M. Johnson said it was such a difficult process finding the black bunting, he immediately began finding the bunting for whenever a new Pope is elected (white and gold) so SJB would be prepared. //He talked about the upcoming Confirmation on 1-25-23. //He also stated the Children’s Choir will be singing at the 11:15 am Mass. He was asked how many children are in the choir and he stated nine which includes one child from PSR. //In his report he stated SJB received enough donations for all four candles for the Advent Wreath and five additional donations will be used toward the Easter Candel with permission from donors. //He reported the Organ technicians stated the organ is in good working condition. //He wanted to thank D. Losekamp and T. Hoefer for helping with delivering the Christmas trees and hanging the large Christmas wreaths. He also thanked C. Roesner and J. Gemperline for the floral design and work they did for Christmas decorations. //This was the first time the children were involved in singing for the Christmas Mass. He was pleased with the choir who attended and performed at the midnight Mass. //He acknowledged the passing of P. Reiter – a major loss to all of us in our own ways. She oversaw the seasonal changing out of the inserts in our hymnals that include the service music for each season. Pam’s sisters, D. Hansell and K. Thomas, decided they would continue assisting with this project in memory of her. //Near Term activities (Underway/Planned): removal of Christmas liturgical environment after 1-9-23 (the poinsettias were available for adoption by parishioners). //Taze’ Prayer 1-13-23. //Sacrament of Confirmation with choir, brass, percussion, flute and guitar on 1-25-23. **How has he impacted the SJB Vision this month?** **Bring People – Body, Mind and soul – to Christ:** He stated that regardless of what parish you are part of you find that Christmas brings many people to church whom you won’t see again until Easter, a wedding or family funeral. It is tempting to judge these unfamiliar faces as being “bad or unfaithful” people. Our Lord and Savior takes a different approach to those on the margins of faith. He welcomes them and extends an invitation. We, at SJB, spend hours giving and making time to have our Christmas liturgies be a welcoming and hospitable experience; by removing obstacles to ensure there is an encounter with Christ. This is done all-the-while knowing that we are planting seeds for a harvest we will likely not see.

Pastor’s Report: Father Paul began by thanking PPC for his Christmas gift cards. He shared that he got away for a three-day vacation after the first week of January and plans to look ahead and schedule a full one in June. //He discussed the CMA Appeal which begins this weekend and will make comments about it during his homily. He explained when we make our goal for CMA, we automatically receive half of the overage back to SJB.

D. Lohman asked how long the CMA drive will last. Father stated through spring. The Maris' asked if CMA would still be done on line and father answered yes.

Business Manager Report: M. Newton had his handout concerning Financial Summary for November. The November financials are reconciled. He began by stating SJB received a sizeable individual donation for December. November collections were below budget. Other income was above budget due to favorable new church donations. November expenses were worse than budget due primarily to clearing of the interest accrual which was budgeted in July. YTD revenue was better than budget driven by new church donations and the festival. Expenses were favorable YTD driven by some wage savings and low festival expenses, among other positive factors. //School: November revenue was favorable due to reimbursement payment for EANS expenses. As stated before, we spend the money first and then send receipt to EANS who reimburses SJB. YTD revenue was favorable, driven by tuition payments ahead of budget. Expenses were at budget, with some variances in that, specifically favorable 2022 FY healthcare expense not yet paid and wages, offset by the EANS expenses. //Total Church, School, Cafeteria: November had negative expenses partially offset by favorable revenue, both are due to timing. YTD revenue and expenses were favorable, some real (new church payments and festival economics). D. Heuser asked about cafeteria and how food budget is holding up with prices being so high. M. Newton stated L. Hebauf is doing an excellent job of managing the food expenses. However, food is still higher than budget. //Statement of Financial Position: November cash balance decreased due primarily to the new church loan principal payment and the November net loss. //Other items: Turkey dinner: SJB made a profit. However, fewer dinners were sold. Last year the dinners were sold out. //Building and Grounds: M. Newton has been working on the outside church lighting problems and finally reprogrammed everything. It worked. The grade school walls and ceilings were painted over break and later the class rooms will be painted. //School: The 2023/24 school year tuition and fees have been finalized. The PreK to 8 and preschool rates will increase 4% to 6% He talked a bit about how he has researched other Catholic/private schools and their tuition plans and compared them to our increase. M. Lienesch asked how many students are now registered. He stated 220 PreK – 8. //Near Term activities (Underway/Planned): Finance: December reconciliation, creation/ mailing of 1099s. //Church: Completion of new Welcome Packets. // Building & Grounds: Old church heating, Geil HVAC, responding to daily work orders. //School: 23/24 school registration documents and WeShare update, alternative fee payment platform implemented (K12Payment Center). //Other SVDP building agreement and athletic fields project. //He also reported on SVdP and that the Cincinnati SVdP is willing to sign a legal agreement which will allow the Harrison SVdP to begin building the new pantry. The Cincinnati SVdP will be responsible for the insurance and the Harrison SVdP will pay their portion back to the Cincinnati SVdP. D. Lohman asked if the City of Harrison would have any zoning problems with this new building. M. Newton stated no problem with the city and zoning codes. C. Nocks stated the Cincinnati SVdP would now handle the furniture. //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: T. Palmer reported the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother and the Christmas Masses went well. Everyone at the 3 pm Christmas Mass was able to sit in the Nave. She wanted to thank all the parishioners who used their time and talent before and at the Masses. //The reported the new design of the SJB Christmas card was completed and mailed to parishioners. //The Mike Davis Advent Program was well attended. More than 200 attended the program. //SJB welcomed Melissa Burns at the Rite of Welcome on 12-4-22. She is a baptized Christian who is seeking to be in full communion with the Catholic Church. //Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): IT Security and school wireless design and quote. //Robert Barron's "The Mass" presentation begins in the parish on 1-11-23. This is a six-week program that will skip one week for the Sacrament of Confirmation Mass on 1-25-23. //Plan for OCIA and parish Lenten activities.

How has she impacted the STJB Vision this month: Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ: She states she impacted the vision through the Advent study. She walked with parishioners as they grew closer to Christ through the study of the Holy Family.

Director of Religious Education: Jonathan Schaefer reports he helped plan and host the confirmation Retreat in December. //High School Youth Group teens meet weekly on Sunday nights. They had Christmas fun and service night for all students in grades 9 through 12. They made Christmas cards for the shut ins of the parish and a big stack for the local nursing homes (All learned about Advent and anticipation of a gift). //School Masses are running each week along with training lectors and servers. //Helped set up for school penance service. // Gave out St. Nick treats to PSR students. // Confirmation Update and PSR Updates were e mailed to families by flocknote. //Gathered school students together for a once-a-month opportunity to experience adoration. //He continues to advertise youth events and posts pictures on Instagram, Facebook and SJB website. // Organized a Christmas activity and fun day at the new church for students and put together a spiritual bouquet. // Began organizing a youth trip to Winter Jam and helping at the Bountiful Hearts Dinner in January. He continues to make plans for the rest of school year. //Near term Activities (Underway/Planned): Youth Group trip to Winter Jam; Confirmation Practice and Confirmation; High School Youth Ministry service at Bountiful Hearts; Plan and prepare for Confirmation Mass; Planning Minute to Win It youth Night in February; Planning a babysitting volunteer night for the youth ministry as a fundraiser. // **How has he impacted the SJB Vision this month (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?)** Offering a retreat for the 8th Grade Confirmation students helped them connect with each other and God on a deeper level. Through prayer, activities and food there is something for every aspect of the individual so they will be more open to seeing God in their life and prepare for their Confirmation.

Music Director: see report

Parish Life: We remember P. Reiter and her wonderful ministry through Parish Life. She will be missed. They plan no meetings until spring. However, their ladies and men's luncheons will continue as well as the Breakfast. Details will be in the Bulletin. **How has this group impacted the STJB Vision this month? (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?)** The Parish Life Ministry purpose is to develop and host social activities for the gathering of SJB parishioners to grow together as God's family, celebrating each other's lives and to promote Christ's love through outreach to the Community and the world.

School Principal: Nichole Herrmann reports the 1st and 3rd grade performance of "The First Christmas took place and was successful. //Parent volunteers organized the Santa Shop for students to come and shop for gifts for family members. // the 2nd quarter ended on 12-16. //School was closed for 12-19-22 through 1-1-23 for Christmas break. // The Elementary building walls, ceilings, door frames and stairwells were painted during break and it looks great. //Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned: She will continue to work with Accreditation team to analyze school data to identify two goals (Academic and Catholic Identity). Once these goals go through the approval process (23-24) they will be worked on school wide for four years. //Planning Open House, Preschool/KDG info sessions and a Catholic Schools week. // Planning of the 2023 calendar. She continues to work with Accreditation team to analyze school data to identify two goals (Academic and Catholic Identity.). Once these goals go through the approval process (23-24) they will be worked on school wide for four years. //Planning of Open House, Preschool/KDG information sessions and Catholic Schools Week. **How has she impacted the SJB vision this month – (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ?)** We have impacted the vision by sharing the Christmas story of the birth of Christ with our students and families. Also, by continuing to prepare events to attract new students to St. John's.

Athletic Association: Plan an Open House on 1-29. Need volunteers. They will do Bountiful Hearts on 3-25-23. //Planning fundraisers, including a soccer camp. Still have some open positions: GWAC, Softball, Girls' Volleyball, Uniform coordinator. //The St. Bernard gym may be rented at \$9 an hour. //New field update: Met with internal parishioner team and the next step is to get a drawing from civil engineers for a quote. //Goal to be on agenda for PPC meeting by March. They need cost and funding resource information. // Volleyball Update: Two teams are in tournament; season is over. //Girls' volleyball: discussions concerning numbers of games to be played are ongoing. //Girls' Basketball: The schedules should be out by 1-23-23. // Girls' Softball: Trying to consolidate to just a few fields would help with umpire shortage. They still can get girls on teams. //Soccer Update: Need to collect uniforms. //Basketball Update: Boys': Need to pay St. Bernard league fee. // Girls may need new basketballs; need names of coaches and addresses; need referee fees for checks. //Baseball Update: Waiting on cost figures from TCYO for games and potential practices. //Softball Update: Still need a coordinator. //Social Media Update: Facebook page is up. Board members to be posting permissions. //A social media waiver needs to be added to the registration form to make it easier to manage. //**How has this group impacted the STJB Vision (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ)?** STJB Athletics has created both Facebook and Instagram pages that will be used to communicate and showcase the sports teams and athletes of St. Johns.

Reports from Social Action: K. Nocks reported they have been providing doctor and hospital visit transportation for three people on a regular basis. //Spanish Mass. They discussed working with SVdP to have some assistance programs translated into Spanish. // Hopes Journey: The building is up and running and accepting applications from homeless men to go through the process and be admitted to the program. //Feed the Children: food delivery will be 3-16-23 during spring break. //Bountiful Hearts next meal being provided by the Meiners and Grimm families. February meals will be provided by SVdP. //K. Nocks wanted to thank the SJB parishioners for helping keep the pantry well stocked for the last few months

Building and Grounds: D. Lohman reported still a lot of work going on with the heating and air at Geil building.

Old Business: K. Nocks commented on how PPC can address the parishioners' requests and questions. Father Ruwe suggested giving parishioners comments or questions to D. Haller who will then discuss with M. Newton and work with Father and Staff on final answers. Father Ruwe stated PPC should not take on any task or answer any questions without coming to someone on Staff or Father first. //It was then decided we should again have a Meet and Greet PPC the first weekend of February. Those volunteering: Saturday 4 Pm: K. Nocks and M. Lienesch. Sunday 8:30 am: D. Haller and M. White. Sunday: 11:15 am L. Egbert

New Business: D. Haller thanked our guests and asked them to leave because PPC was going into executive session to discuss the replacement of P. Reiter on PPC. After much discussion it was decided by Father Ruwe, we should leave the position vacant until the 2023 cycle. All agreed.

Adjournment: Motion: D. Lohman; 2nd D. Heuser

Prayer: Father Ruwe

Submitted by: S. Ruthven 1-17-23