

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

Meeting Date: October 18, 2022

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Prayer: Father Paul

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

Previous PPC Meeting Minutes: September meeting minutes were approved and distributed. Motion to approve by D. Heuser; 2nd by L. Egbert

Staff Report: Parish School of Religion (PSR)--Jonathan Schafer: He has 132 children enrolled (some late) in grades 1 – 8. This is larger than 2021. He is trying to get core members of the youth group to help the younger ones and also to mingle with the junior high group. He has changed the Confirmation program some and it is scheduled for January. He has been attending the Sunday Mass and helping distribute the Bulletin to get to know people better. //School Masses are up and running on Friday mornings. He had some 8th grade students attend Taizé Prayer service to experience prayer in a new way. //The Parent/Candidate confirmation Night went well and there is a make-up session for those who could not attend. He has sent Confirmation Preparation updates via e-mail to all families and also used flock note. He has a Confirmation Retreat planned for 12-3. He had the Confirmation Students attend Bountiful Hearts meal and help where needed. //He has begun posting youth events and pictures on Instagram, Facebook and the SJB website. //He talked with the Archdiocese about the Totus Tuus Program for next summer. He also had the PSR students write “thank you” notes to Father Ruwe. // Future Activities: First Reconciliation Parent meeting on 10-11; Running the Pizza and games for youth ministry 10-16; Service with Confirmation Candidates (Planning the rescheduled Rosary Rally); Continues to meet more people in the parish; Planning Junior High Ministry Days; The Vocation Director will visit SJB school in November. **How has he impacted the SJB Vision this month? Bring People – Body, Mind and soul – to Christ:** PSR has nurtured the body, mind and soul and brought students closer to Christ. Confirmation Service work has helped nurture the body and soul of those we minister to. Students learning to be disciples and share their faith with others has strengthen their soul and mind to be formed to Christ.

Pastor’s Report: Father Paul began the by passing around a “thank you” note from Father Jeff for his going away gift. //He then began explaining the Archdiocese Convocation of Priests held in West Virginia concerning Beacons of Light and its effects on Cincinnati Archdiocese Priests and parishes. He explained the main speakers were Father James Mallon, Diocese of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Author of “Divine Renovation” and Dan Celluci, Catholic Leadership Institute. He stated the speakers were practically helpful and he thoroughly enjoyed their message. // He stated many of the problems and issues brought up by the priests were not applicable to SJB. However, the main focus of Beacons of Light is making certain parishes focus on bringing people to Jesus and not focusing on maintaining the status quo; with an initial focus on staff team leadership and his own attention for the parish’s benefit on the parish vision. He stated God works in ways we cannot understand. H. Menninger asked if Father saw any changes in the message of the Catholic church being updated toward younger people. Father stated the Liturgy is the Liturgy and the message will be the same.

Business Manager Report: M. Newton had a handout of the August financials. He discussed the August financials in some detail. //Church: August collections were below budget. Other Income was above budget due to favorable semi-annual new church pledge payments. August expenses were better than budget driven

by below budget festival costs. //YTD: Revenue is better than budget driven by favorable collections, a strong festival and pledge payments. Expenses are favorable YTD driven by low festival expense and the timing of the interest accrual. //School: August revenue was favorable but all of it is timing of tuition payments versus the budget and the receipt of Ed Choice checks. August expenses were also favorable driven by timing of Luebe expenditures and the quarterly payment to Butler County for school personnel. YTD: revenue is favorable, driven by tuition payments ahead of budget. Expenses are favorable YTD driven by the timing of Luebe expenditures. //Total Church, School, Cafeteria: Positive August revenue and expenses, although most of it is timing. Also, favorable YTD revenue and expenses, some real (new church payments, festival economics), and some simply timing. //Statement of Financial Position: The August cash balance increased due to primarily the net profit for the month. //Updated analysis of new church pledges and payments versus loan balance, is showing a short fall to pay off the loan of approximately \$500K. He will continue to update this over the next few years since the loan is reaching maturity in 2026. //FY2022 entity profitability shows cemetery, athletics and PTC all had solid, profitable years. //He discussed changes in WeShare portal and how it has caused many problems. However, the worst is over and things are much better. //He discussed how successful the Stricker's Grove picnic was. //Building and Grounds: The Geil HVA is still in planning and he is still responding to daily work orders. //School: Cafeteria equipment has arrived and will be installed during the Fall Break. //Other: SVdP building and the Athletic fields project are still in progress. //He then gave a brief review of the SVdP building progress. He is working with the Archdiocese and SVdP on the building, maintenance and liability of the new facility on SJB grounds. // **How has he impacted the STJB Vision this month? (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ).** By continued focus on maintaining a financially stable parish through adequate collections, expense control, balance sheet management and budgetary accuracy and by enhancing infrastructure through effective use of donated funds.

Pastoral Associate: T. Palmer reported RCIA is up and running. Currently two adults and two teens are in the program. SJB will advertise throughout the year to meet people when they feel the calling to explore the Catholic faith. //Baptism classes have been transitioned because of Deacon Don's move to Senior Status. He held the first class on 9-27. These classes will be held monthly on the fourth Tuesday. There will not be any prep classes in December because of Christmas. //She met with Social Action committee to determine new contacts with the transition of Deacon Don. She has started advertising for different parts of the group on Facebook and in the Bulletin. //Priesthood Sunday was successful. We thanked Father Paul for answering the call to become a priest by having cupcakes available after all Masses. She thanked Ruth Walters for all her work on the event. Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): Young adults restart in October; Completing welcome packet that will be given to new parishioners; final Preparations for the Ministry Fair scheduled for 10-29/30. And IT Security review. // **How has she impacted the SJB Vision this month? Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ.** She impacted the Vision through Body, Mind and Soul through working with parishioners who needed someone's ear this month because a problem or a concern they were dealing with. This included a visit to one of our parishioners who was recently placed into a nursing home.

Director of Religious Education: See Staff Report

School Principal: Nicole Herrmann reports she completed Safety/Security grant application. Another grant became available and the application was due in early November. She will apply for this. She attended Partners in Mission workshop about Strategic Enrollment Management. There was a lot of useful information and she is looking forward to attend the next two sessions. // She completed the first lockdown and bus evacuation drill of the year. //She attended AOC PACTS meeting and Principal Southwest Deanery Meeting. //She linked the school's social media accounts and created a social media calendar for scheduled posts. She purchased desks for first grade with COVID Relief funds. She will be exploring desk options for 2nd through 8th grade and purchase with EANS (COVID) Relief funds. //Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): Working on several reports due for AOC and State of Ohio. Clever Boards to be installed in late October. //Continue to work with Accreditation

team to analyze school data to identify two goals (Academic and Catholic Identity). Once these goals are approved 2023/24, they will be worked on school wide for four years. //Waiting on quotes for new water fountains with filling stations for Jr. High building. //The Quarter ends on 10-14 and Fall Break will be 10-1/18. //Preparing for annual walk-a-thon on 10-7. **How has she impacted the SJB Vision this month? Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ.** She has impacted the vision by actively participating in workshops and team meetings to continue to improve the school and learning environment of SJB students and families.

Music Director: M. Johnson reported the Tazi' Prayer has resumed. Several Confirmation candidates were present and experienced this style of prayer. //The choir has returned to Mass on Sunday's 11: 5 am. //On September 13 he held first rehearsal with the children in two and a half years. He begins with ten singers. Usually, once rehearsals began, new membership is closed. However new members will continue to be accepted until December. He has also completed the children's choral program. //On 9-25 – a celebration of Baptism within Mass was held with twin boys. He helped in the preparation with Father Ruwe handling his first Baptism at SJB. //Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): Children's Choir sing for 11:15 am Mass on October 2. In addition, students in the parish day school will sing for school Mass on 10-7, the Memorial of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. // **How has he impacted the STJB Vision this month? (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ)?** He is happy to have the choir back since they have such an impact on the Mass and parishioners at the 11:15 am Mass. From giving the gathered assembly a secure foundation for congregational songs to assisting in the breaking open of the Word through choral anthems, their impact is profound. One of the more subtle impacts they have is shaping the experience of the liturgical calendar. Outside of Christmas and Easter when the liturgical and secular calendars overlap, it takes both some effort and openness in order to experience the liturgical year. The foundation of the liturgical year is the scriptural texts we hear and that take us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ through the seasons. Whether it's hymns we sing or choral anthems we hear, these scripturally influenced texts help to immerse into the times and season of the liturgical year.

Parish Life: P. Reiter reports they had ten at their meeting on 10-11. ROMEOs: Men's luncheon group met with one attending; JULIETs: met 9-22 with 19 attending. Father Bill came and gave all ladies a birthday blessing the next meeting will be 11-10. //The Breakfast Club men and women gathered on 10-10 with 10 in attendance. Next meeting will be 12-10. //The Milestone Anniversary Celebration was held on 10-9. Nine couples attended. Couples began the celebration at the 11:15 am Mass and received a special blessing from Father Ruwe. The celebration continued in the Community Room for a light luncheon. A recognition certificate from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati was presented to each couple by Father Ruwe. We thank Father Ruwe for making this day so special to these couples. //Near Term Activities (Underway/Planned): A fundraiser Christmas Ornament will be sold after Mass the weekends of 11-5/6 and 11-19/20. The cost of the ornament is \$10. Sale details will be announced in the Bulletin and with a pulpit announcement. Ornaments may be purchased outside of Mass by contacting P. Reiter. //The Trunk or Treat event will be held on 10-30 from 3 pm to 4:30 pm. This will take place in the StJB school parking lot. Parishioners may participate by passing out candy from their car trunks or bring their children in costumes to the event. There will be a few games for the children. Set up will begin at 2 pm. //Parish Life will help at Weber's Pumpkin Festival at D. Lohman's booth. Parish Life will be participating in the STJB Ministry Day on 10-29/30. **How has this group impacted the STJB Vision this month? (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ).** Parish Life Ministry 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.

Athletic Association: The group reports Matt Edmiston will be the incoming Girls' Basketball Coordinator. He has coached Girl's high school basketball and has two girls at SJB. //Father Ruwe will join the group for a

meeting on 11-7. //The gym floor refinishing cost estimates are coming from Cincinnati Floor. //The Athletic Association will participate at the Ministry Fair on 10-29/30. //Volleyball Update: Girls: New net has been purchased; Boys no update. //Baseball is planning to open registration on 11-1 and late fees will begin on 12-1. //The group is still planning several fundraisers. **How has this group impacted the STJB Vision (Bring People – Body, Mind and Soul – to Christ)?** Athletics engagement in 20/22-year has really increased and shown in the economics. We continue to keep the momentum going to spread the vision through how our coaches coach, how the athletes play and how parents react.

Reports from Social Action: K. Nocks reported the September Bountiful Hears was provided by the Liturgical Ministers. It was enjoyed by 43 homebound neighbors and 60 people dined in. The K of C will provide the October meal. Again, the Social Action group will provide a meal on 1113 for the Turkey dinner. Tickets will be given to the homebound communion list and neighbors they serve through Bountiful Hearts. This year Bountiful Hearts, SVdP and K of C are combining to fund this event. //SVdP will have their 5th Sunday Collection on 10-29/30. The SVdP trailer will be in the school parking lot on 10-29/30 for the Clean Out the Closet event. //The annual Used Coat Drive will take place this year with distribution of coats at the school cafeteria on 12-10. Barrells will be located at the new church for collection too.

Building and Grounds: D. Lohman stated meeting will be in November

Festival: no report

Old Business: D. Haller reviewed the final changes to the PPC Constitution. There were a couple minor changes to be handled after the vote. A motion was made by D. Heuser to accept the new PPC Constitution with the additional minor changes and 2nd by K. Nocks. A vote was called and all agreed. The new PPC Constitution will be finalized and distributed by D. Haller. M. Newton will keep a hard copy in his files.

New Business: D. Haller asked for volunteers to be present during the Ministry Fair on 10-29/30; instead of having the Meet and Greet weekend on 11-5/6. All agreed. The schedule will be: 10/29 4 pm: D. Haller; 8:30 am: D. Heuser; D. Haller; S. Ruthven; 11:15 am H. Menninger and whomever is available. //D. Heuser brought up questions about Jackson, Kentucky. In the past SJB has had a big presence there and now there is only mass once a month. However, she stated many children look forward to the Christmas SJB brings every year. She wondered if this would continue. The names of those children and adults are on the Giving Tree every year. Father Ruwe suggested she get in touch with Monica at SVdP and see their thoughts. D. Heuser will follow up. //R. Humbert brought up a parishioner's question about the music being too loud. Father Ruwe stated SJB has excellent acoustics. He sees no reason to make changes at this time.

Adjournment: Motion: M. White; 2nd R. Humbert

Prayer: Father Ruwe

Submitted by: S. Ruthven 10-18-22