



Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Parish
150 Fleury Avenue
Prescott, AZ 86301

Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes Aug. 1,2022
Being a living example of God's Love to Others"

Present: Fr. Raj, Jim Wren, Martha Lamb, Mark Matthews, William Rodriguez, Jim Yates

Absent: Bernie Health, Margarita Arellano, Dcn. Mark Weber, Mike King

Meeting called to order: The meeting was called to order by Martha at 4:00pm

Opening Prayer: Led by Jim Yates

Approval of minutes: June 6th meeting minutes approved.

Old Business: Martha reported that plans for the Ministry Fair weekends were progressing. 16 ministries have confirmed tables and the first weekend is full. Jim Wren gave us an update of the Parish Directory. It is completed and will be distributed Heritage weekend and will be included in the New Parishioners packets.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Raj reported that the school year starts Wednesday and that the school Mass will resume on that day. Our new Bishop, John Dolan, will be installed on Aug. 2 and several parish members including clergy will be in attendance. Fr. asked for a review of the Staff/Council Retreat held on July 29. The general consensus was that it was very well received and appreciated. He is pleased with the ministries in our Parish and announced two new ministries: Life & Prayer Workshop & Women's Circle of Faith and Friendship.

Parish Manager's Report: Jim reminded the council members to be sure and call all new parishioners when they receive the list for their assigned month. It was suggested that a follow up report be presented to the council each month with the responses received and it was agreed by all present. The monthly call list was updated by replacing Judy Carlisi with Jim Yates. Jim reminded everyone that the times have changed for the Aug. 31st meeting/dinner. The Synod presentation will be from 4pm – 5pm with dinner/social to follow. All of the required annual financial reports are completed and have been submitted to the Diocese.

New Business: There will be a Pastoral Council presentation from the Ambo at each Mass the weekend of Aug. 13/14. An approved script was presented and council members agreed to the Mass times they would cover. Council members were invited to volunteer to help at the community Hope Fest to be held Sept. 10 at the courthouse plaza. Sacred Heart Parish will have a booth with information about the Catholic faith and will be handing out Miraculous Medals. This is an excellent way to evangelize on a community-wide basis. As a follow up to the ongoing discussion on how to bring "quiet" to the church prior to Mass, it was agreed that we would begin praying the Rosary 30 minutes before the start of each Mass (this is already being done at 7am and 1pm

Masses). It was agreed that this would be implemented with the first Sunday of Sept. and preparation to find leaders would take place during August. William agreed to be the leader for the Sunday 5pm Mass. Martha and Jim introduced National Eucharistic Revival, which is a three year program to encourage the faithful to grow in their understanding and devotion to Christ in the Eucharist. Council members agreed to make this a priority in our Parish. Jim Wren recommended each member sign up for weekly updates at eucharisticrevival.org. Development of program will be an ongoing goal of this council. Fr. Raj presented his August theme: Developing goals, objective and priorities:

For the Pastoral Council:

1. Assist Pastor with promoting pastoral action in the parish – shepherding, animating, guiding, helping.
2. Advise pastor in pastoral planning, goals and setting priorities
3. Advise pastor on the spiritual wellbeing of the parish
4. Pastor will hear from key ministries of the parish and from staff about their ministries

Regarding item #3, William suggested having a Healing Mass. Fr. Raj agree to explore possibility and suggested an Anointing Mass, perhaps in the Fall

Council input on the Parish:

1. Discuss achievements as a parish in the last year and success stories
2. Seeing out Evangelization and out-reach opportunities
3. Seek ways to strengthen existing ministries.
4. Expand bible study and Faith sharing groups
5. Becoming a welcoming and hospitable faith community
6. Strengthening the ministry of Liturgical ministers

Discussion followed. Item #1 – Parish continues to grow in both numbers and donations. Ministries are returning to pre-Covid activity. Item #2 – Hope Fest participation lauded as an excellent evangelization/out-reach opportunity in the Prescott community. Good Friday Station at the Plaza another excellent evangelization tool. Item #3 – It was thought that the Ministry Fairs would help a great deal to both introduce existing ministries to the Parish and, also, garner new volunteers. Item #4 – Discussed ways to provide a list of ongoing vetted Bible Studies in the parish. Again, Ministry Fair will have information regarding Faith sharing groups. Item #5 – the Aug. 13/14 Mass presentation will help new (and old) parishioners feel more acknowledged and council members will continue to be available after each Mass for greeting and assistance. Item #6 – Fr. Raj advised that he is planning on having annual meetings with each of the groups that comprise our Liturgical Ministers. This will allow more focused training and discussion groups within each category of Liturgical Minister.

Summary: Continuing discussion and suggestions by council regarding input on 2022/23 Pastoral plan. Council members encouraged to bring suggestions to next meeting on September 12th at 4pm. Fr. Raj's Sept theme: Evaluation of directors' animated ministries.

Closing Prayer: Led by Jim Yates
Meeting adjourned at 4:57pm