



Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Parish

*150 Fleury Avenue
Prescott, AZ 86301*

Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes. February 6, 2023

"Being the Living Example of God's Love to Others"

Present: Fr, Raj, Jim Wren, Martha Lamb, Jim Yates, Mark Matthews, Bernie Heath, Craig Thompson (new member) Mike King

Absent: William Rodriguez, Mark Weber Margarita Arellano has resigned from the Council and has moved to the Phoenix area. (Avondale)

Guests: Felipe Ruiz, Hispanic committee

Meeting called to Order: Martha called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

Opening Prayer: Martha Lamb

Approval of minutes: The minutes were approved unanimously as amended. Jim Yates' name was not included in the members present, Secretary's error.

New member introduction: Craig Thompson is a husband and father of two children. He and his family are recent convert to Catholicism at Sacred Heart, and he is on this year's RCIA Team. Craig and his spouse are real estate managers.

Old Business: Martha handed out the assignment list for Council members to call new parishioner for the 2023 year. Martha will adjust the schedule for November as Jim Yates will not be available that month due to travel. Calls are being made and those who answer are pleased with the parish outreach. Many do not call back if a message is left. Perhaps the reason is that new parishioners are welcomed by Jim Wren, information packets are distributed, and people are satisfied with the knowledge they get about the parish.

World Youth Day: August 1-6, 2023. Various meetings are occurring with interested youth and family. Currently we have two young women with their father and two Claretian priests representing our parish, Father Raj and Father Rubiston from Chicago. Various fund-raising efforts are being planned to help support our parish representatives. The Claretian order is offering scholarships and organizing the logistics for the Claretian parishes worldwide. They are also sponsoring pre and post Youth Day activities.

Pastor's report: Father Raj returned February 1st from his vacation to India. He is engaging the parish work that is currently in need of attention. (World Youth Day, parish budget, Lenten preparation activities, etc.) He was pleased with the Christmas and New Year's church activities. We will hosting two visiting priests, Father Rubiston and Father Anthony until february 7. , who will help with parish activities. Father clarified that there is one Parish Council. The Hispanic leadership group is a parish committee.

Parish Manager's Report: The Christmas season parish activities were well attended and supported. Collections helped improve the parish financial situation to bring collection revenues back in line with the budget. We received many compliments on the decorations, creche, and flowers which decorated the church.

On New Year's Eve, the parish rental house at 233 Summit street experienced a fire which " gutted " the interior. The cause was estimated to be a faulty electrical , caused fire from wiring from the initial construction in 1942. No one was injured. The parish is planning to rebuild the home. The insurance will pay for the reconstruction.

The first draft of the 2023-24 budget is completed. This year's budget is challenging due to higher costs of business, diocesan allocations and the rather stable donations from parishioners. The Parish Council will be

briefed by the Financial council prior to the June 2023 approval date. The school is losing some grant money for school operations, and the Catholic Education Arizona distribution is uncertain. The school makes good use of the Catholic Tuition Organization (CTO) Generally; the parish is in good financial shape. The parish has some reserve funds which are being invested in Treasury T-Bills and approval is awaiting from the Diocese to purchase I Bonds.

Our Church roof is leaking and causing damage; Therefore, we will commence a two-week re-roofing of the entire church roof this Spring. It may cause adjustments to church services and important services may cause suspending roofing work for short periods. Funds are available for this work.

As of February 7, our Parish Charity and Development Appeal (CDA) has \$53,000 pledged or donated. This is a good start and is about 35% of our goal.

The Diocese has noted our parish to have good financial management and Jim Wren is being asked to help parishes that do have the skills or accounting procedures in place to meet finance objectives.

Staffing Changes: Alma Helms has taken over the Executive Assistant position that was vacated by Tina Nemeth who recently retired. Alma was praised for her professional, responsive ways and organization skills in her new position. Christine Matthews has taken on the part time cook position for the priests which was vacated by the retirement of Lisa Tucker. Currently, Andrea Myers is the assistant accounting tech and part time front office receptionist, vice Alma. She is doing well in her position, and she is currently in the RCIA program.

New Business: The traveling exhibit that highlights the Eucharistic miracles, that were catalogued by Blessed Carlo Acutis will be at Sacred Heart parish Friday, March 17 until Monday, March 20. Two to three people must be in attendance during opening hours to provide security for the exhibit which will be in the lower church. The parish Council, Financial Council and parish staff will redeem these responsibilities. Numerous announcements, and our parish media will encourage viewing this exhibit and invitations will be sent to other parishes in Northern Arizona as well. We are the only parish outside of the Phoenix area to host this exhibit. The parish is indebted to Jim Wren for his persistence in our request to the Diocese to host the exhibit.

The National Eucharistic Revival Congress, the first one in 48 years, is scheduled for July 17-21, 2024. It is expected to bring tens of thousands to Indianapolis. The parish will encourage attendance by our parishioners and possibly organize a group package. More information will be available as the Congress formalizes its plans. The parish is considering a Corpus Christi procession outside the church and in our neighborhood when Corpus Christi is celebrated.

Praying the Rosary before mass has been an accepted part of our Eucharistic celebration. Attendance varies. Leaders are evident at all masses except Sunday night where most people come to mass during or after the Rosary and leaders have not come forth. Martha was commended for leading the Rosary at this mass which is in addition to her mass duties at another mass.

There will not be a Lenten Mission this year. The Eucharist Exhibit in March will occur. There will be an Easter Mission on May 30, conducted by Fr. Jim Sichko, a well-respected traveling mission speaker.

Next Meeting: March 6, 2023

Closing prayer: Martha

Meeting Adjourned: 4:55 pm