



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

Pastoral Council Committee Minutes March 6, 2023
Being a living example of God's Love to Others"

Present: Fr. Raj, Martha Lamb, Craig Thompson, Jim Yates, Mark Matthews, Bernie Health Mike King, Jim Wren

Absent: Deacon Mark Weber **Guests:** Ernie Felago

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

Opening Prayer: Mike King

Approval of minutes: February 6, 2023, meeting minutes approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Martha distributed the revised assignment sheet for calling new parishioners.

World Youth Day: Jim Yates gave a brief report about a recent meeting he attended with persons involved in supporting and attending the World Youth Day in August in Lisbon Portugal. He stated the committee was organized and moving forward with fund raising for our contingent attending. He deferred to Father Raj who has an update in his pastor's report.

National Eucharistic Revival: The traveling exhibit is scheduled for set up, Friday, March 17 and staffing to provide security for the weekend and Monday morning are assigned. Announcements are and will continue to be in the bulletin and will be reinforced during the masses the two weeks prior. Expectations that viewing on Saturday and Sunday, before and after masses will be high. Parishioners who are unable to view here at our parish are encouraged to see the schedules placed at entrances to the church or to seek information at the diocesan website as to the viewing schedule. The nearest exhibit location to Prescott is Cottonwood on June 16-18.

This autumn, the parish will focus on the Eucharist Revival concepts with classes and homilies addressing this topic.

Pastor's Report

World Youth Day: Father Raj has been attending several meetings and working with the Claretians in logistical aspects of the pre- and post-World Youth Day activities. We have 7 youth attendees and three adults attending. Fr. Raj, Fr. Rubiston and another adult. As of March 6th, we have 60%-70% of the costs funded. Tickets to Lisbon have been purchased and future fund-raising efforts and donations will help finance the entire Sacred Heart contingent.

Father received his evaluation report from the Claretian headquarters who requested Sacred Heart staff and some parish leaders to complete a questionnaire about various

aspects of parish leadership and programs. He spent time with Father Fred LeClaire, his spiritual director/mentor, to dialogue about the evaluation results.

The Bishop is establishing a new Diocesan ministry concentrating on mental health. The principal persons who will conduct this ministry at the parish level will be Deacons. They will be trained about various resources in their locations to refer people for assistance. Priests, Deacons and lay ministers are not sufficiently trained in all aspects related to mental health and referral is encouraged. We will be hearing more about this ministry and its implementation in the future.

March 18, 2023, the parish will conduct a mass of the Anointing of the Sick at 11:00 am

The parish has been participating in a program entitled “ Amazing Parish” and we will be taking it to another level with staff and parish leadership participating in online training and personal field visits by “Amazing Parish” training cadre in the next several months. Dialogue and ideas about aspects of leadership and administration will be discussed, For example: problem solving, integration of programs, collaboration and communication to name a few.

Father would like to revisit the elements of the pastoral plan and have each Pastoral Council member develop communications, understanding and actions with various ministries that support the elements in the pastoral plan. We will have more dialogue about this at future meetings.

Father Raj handed out a book entitled “ *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*” which is related to the eucharistic revival. Father is asking parish staff and Councils to read one chapter at a time and discuss it at future meetings.

Parish Manager report.

We are early in the 2023-2024 budget process and facing challenges in balancing the budget, especially the school due to a shift away from CEA grants to ESA funding. Parish staffing and various projects are being reviewed. Our Parish costs are going up but the incoming revenues are stagnant. Jim and Father have had a dialogue about a staff person to lead the Catechesis programs for our parish. There is a need to have more integration, more supervision and direction for these programs. Jim tries to cover all aspects of our parish business and the staff programs and ministries, and additional help is need.

The entire roof of the Church needs replacing and this will occur this spring while ongoing parish activities are occurring. Adjustments by the contractor to accommodate these activities will be needed.

The 233 Summit street rental residence that experienced a fire will be reconstructed in the next 6-9 months. Our Parish fire insurance will pay for it.

Parish Custodian: John Gust will be retiring in April. Victor will take on these duties.

Therefore, another custodian is being recruited to take over Victor’s position. Interest is high and candidates are being interviewed.

As of March 6, the parish is at 60 % of its Charity and Development Appeal target. We have 190 families or people contributing. Last year it was 327.

New Business:

Ernie Felago, a guest, was recognized by Father Raj. Ernie offered his concerns and that of other parish members about comments that some of the bulletin's articles or submissions by ministries and/or programs should be more closely monitored to reflect programs more in tune with parish objectives and Catholic teachings. Council dialogue encouraged parish leadership to review these submissions and articles more closely.

Next Meeting: Due to the Easter season and conflicts with Claretian activities the April meeting is cancelled. The May 8th meeting will be an Executive Council session at 3:30pm followed by a full council meeting at 4:00pm.

The meeting ended at 5:05 pm with a closing prayer lead by Mike King.