



Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Parish

*150 Fleury Avenue
Prescott, AZ 86301*

Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes. May 7, 2023 *“Being the Living Example of God’s Love to Others”*

Present: Fr Raj, Mark Matthews, Martha Lamb, Michael King, William Rodriguez

Absent: Jim Wren, Bernie Heath, Craig Thompson, Deacon Mark Weber, Jim Yates

Guests: None

Meeting called to Order: Martha called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm

Opening Prayer: Martha

Approval of minutes: Minutes were approved as presented.

Old Business:

Mark briefed on contacts made to new parishioners. Those he talked to were happy to be contacted and enthused about joining various ministries. Calls left on answering machines were not returned. This is generally the pattern that exists.

World Youth Day has 10 people attending sponsored by our parish. 4 high school students, 2 college students, 1 parent and three clerics, including a seminarian from Chicago. Fund raising is progressing and meetings are being held to prepare the attendees for the pre and post Clarentian sponsored activities.

Pastors report: Father summarized events in the parish what were well attended and successful in the last couple months. These included Holy Week and Easter participation, 46 confirmations, Divine Mercy devotions, Light of the World Retreat, and the Youth Retreat at Chapel Rock Camp. Future activities include May Crowning and Confirmation on May 6 and the Easter mission May 14,15.

Father Darrin Merlino will be assisting our parish from May 4 to May 14 as Fr Gaspar will return May 20.

Father has been having various meetings with staff and school principle in Jim’s absence.

Andrea Myers is leaving her Parish office position for another job and Christine Matthew is replacing her from her position as rectory cook. A cook is being recruited. Muriel is retiring after April 2024 and recruitment will be occurring over the next several months to fill this position. John Gust has retired, and Victor will assume those duties. Silas has been hired as maintenance person for the parish and a vacant school janitor is being recruited. Various schools activities are scheduled as the school ends May 25. Highlights include field days, the School fund raising golf tournament on May 20, and 8th grade graduation, May 23.

New Business: Dialogue about the first couple chapters of the book titled “ Jesus and the Jewish roots of the Eucharist” highlighted the enlightening origins of our mass and Eucharistic celebration in the context of Jewish traditions, commandments, beliefs and rituals. Further dialogue identified actions which will be taken to enhance the understanding and appreciation of the International Eucharistic Revival. For example, A weekly column in the bulletin educating people about the various actions, prayers and content of the mass, Autumn workshops within our parish, the national Conference in Indianapolis in July 2024 and the idea of hosting various conferences within our diocese to reach our parishioners.

Martha is recruiting members for a Sacred Heart Eucharistic Revival Committee to help facilitate the abundant education and participation opportunities in our parish and area.

Pastoral Plan Implementation. We have six elements in our pastoral plan. Father is requesting that each pastoral Council member review the plan elements and select an element to focus your efforts. Then review the new

directory of parish ministries and “adopt” or select a category of ministries and reach out to them by attending their meetings or leadership meetings to understand the various activities being undertaken or planned by these various ministries. This is not an “inspection.” This is to gather information, to take a pulse and celebrate our efforts to attain a “spiritually rich” parish community. We are representatives of our pastor, there to listen and learn.

Suggestions, comments, concerns: (Mike King’s suggestion follows regarding the Pastoral Plan) Further dialogue with all Council members not in attendance must occur to develop an understanding of this effort, how we can involve all Council members and which ministries to visit and develop some talking points so that there is consistency in our message and information gathering. Pre-work for the next meeting is essential.

Item discussed but not on the agenda that would be pursued for further dialogue or decision.

William suggested that we place an angel on each side of the Monstrance in the adoration Chapel to showcase the presence of the Eucharist being adored. . Research on the size, shape, positioning and sources will be undertaken by William. William offered to pay for the angels, if approved.

Closing prayer: Martha

Next Meeting: July 10, 2023, 4:00pm

Meeting Adjourned: 4:30 pm