

Sacred Heart Parish Prescott
Minutes of the Pastoral Council
January 8, 2024, Meeting

Attendees: Martha Lamb, Chair, Jim Yates, Jon Gilwee, John Williams, William Rodriguez, Craig Thompson

Absent: Deacon Mark Weber, Mark Matthews, Bernie Heath

Other Attendees: Fr. Raj, Jim Wren, Alma Helms

Call to Order/Opening Prayer:

Martha L. called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Jon G. led the opening prayer.

Approval of the Minutes:

The Minutes of the November 13, 2023, meeting were approved as distributed.

Old Business:

- New Parishioner Contact Report

Jon G. reported that there were 11 new parishioner families that joined during the month of November. He made calls in early December. Many voice mails were left, and emails were sent. Several contacts were made. Those contacted were most appreciative of receiving calls. Some responded that they were interested in becoming more active in the Parish but needed some time to get settled. One was a long-time parishioner that just got around to registering.

- Update on Eucharistic Revival Events

An update was provided by Martha L. The next Eucharistic Encounter Night is scheduled for Wednesday evening.

Sacred Heart Parish will be the host for the Northern Arizona Eucharistic Conference on Saturday, June 29th. Speakers are arranged and planning is now well underway. It will be an all-day event beginning at 8:00am and concluding with Mass at the end of the day.

- Common Grounds/Just Coffee

Common Grounds/ Just Coffee (coffee & donuts) is intended to occur once a month (first Sunday of the month) after the 7:00am and 9:00am Masses. Martha L. would like to start this again next month. If each major ministry would assist with/sponsor once per year, the entire year should be covered. Martha L. encouraged members to talk this up during meetings of ministries to which they belong. The parish purchases the donuts, and a voluntary donation jar is set out. It only requires the setting up of tables/chairs, managing the coffee and donuts, and

clean up. Letters and/or emails are expected to come out soon from Martha L., and/or possibly Fr. Raj, to ministry leaders.

Pastor's Report – Fr. Raj

Fr. Raj advised everyone that later in the meeting, the video presentation of “Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist” will be shown. We will see half as part of this meeting and the next half during next month's meeting. Fr. Raj expressed his appreciation for everyone's help.

Ordinary time begins now following the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus. Ash Wednesday will be on Feb. 14th this year. We will be having Claretian Mission speakers in March.

Parish Manager's Report – Jim Wren

Jim W. began his report by distributing “Prayer After Holy Communion” holy cards. There have been requests for them and he now has a new supply to distribute.

Rory has been hired as Sacred Heart's new Director of Catechesis. All outstanding visa issues (he is Canadian) have now been resolved. He is expected to start next month, and his wife is expected to join him this summer. Murial will be retiring in May so they will have some time to work together. The Job Description for the position has been completely rewritten.

The Rite of Election for this year's RCIA class will be with the Bishop and held in Cottonwood. It is wonderful that Rory will be able to participate.

The Charity and Development Appeal (CDA) fundraising drive by the Diocese of Phoenix is to begin soon. This year's goal for Sacred Heart Parish is unchanged and is set at \$138,000. Jim W. reported that the process for this is already underway. Information cards containing a QR code were distributed.

This year's Lenten Mission is set for February 25th – 27th. Jim W. described the book, “33 Days to Eucharistic Glory”. He noted that this might be our parish's Easter book.

The process of developing our budget is underway. It is a difficult process and Jim W. noted how blessed we are to have a great Finance Council.

Catholic Schools Week will be the last week of January and will kick off with the Annual Spaghetti Western Dinner on January 27th. At the end of the week, there will be a Career Day for grades 3 – 8. Jim W. will be participating and will be addressing careers in the field of accounting. January 29th will be a veteran appreciation day.

Stations of the Cross will take place again this year on the Plaza. This year, we have been advised by the County that a permit will be required. Applications are in and all is in order.

Jim W. ended his report by thanking Alma H. for the wonderful job that was done with the Christmas decorations this. All present strongly agreed and congratulated Alma on the accomplishment!

New Business:

The first half of the video presentation "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist" was viewed.

After the viewing, Fr. Raj asked for members to share any thoughts so far. All were moved by the new perspectives being presented by Brant Pitre. The second half of the presentation will be shown at the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will NOT be on the regularly scheduled date. The next meeting will be on Monday, February 12th at 4:00pm

Closing Prayer:

The closing prayer was led by Jon G. The meeting was then adjourned at 5:00pm