

CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Pastoral Council Minutes

Wednesday, August 24th, 2022

Attendance:

Michelle Edwards ✓

Mark Niehaus ✓

Sarah Jones ✓

Carmen Chandross ✓

Will Cecere ✓

Monsignor Kenney ✓

Steven Sisman ✓

Marisa Yopez ✓

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM.

I. Opening Prayer: Night Prayer led by Steven Sisman.

Approval of minutes.

Motion to approve July minutes with minor grammatical changes made by Marianne.
Passed unanimously.

II. Discussion and updates about our upcoming Pastoral Council Discernment.

Sarah: The first topic was discerning planning dates, and we need to know how many people of the Parish Council are attending. It was mentioned that there are 3 positions open. We need to open a discussion on how to advertise these positions to all members in our parish community.

Monsignor: We have in the church calendar already listed the nomination weekend, which is two weeks before the election day on September 18th, 2022. This is called the discernment weekend. At every mass, during the discernment period, there will be an announcement made by the Priest during each mass explaining the nomination guidelines. Pencils and paper will be available in the pews where people will write down the names of the candidates. Parishioners will be able to nominate themselves or other parish members to participate in this event. A member of the Pastoral Council will be collecting all the names after each mass, and this information will be brought to the executive committee to invite the people to the discernment via email and or phone. This process is not only based on just an election or a popularity war but rather it is the holy spirit that guides the whole discernment to elect that ones that have been called. Its about the gifts that people are bringing at this time to serve our community.

III. Mission opportunity for small groups presented by Stubenville.

Sarah: Our next topic is the Mission opportunity for small groups presented by Stubenville. Do we have any updates for this upcoming project?

Monsignor: Yes, Finance Council wants to set up a meeting to discuss more about the Stubenville and small groups project. If members of the Pastoral Council want to join this, we can set up a zoom meeting, please let me know who would like to attend the meeting. (Sarah and Mark wanted to participate)

Sarah: We need to clarify that if these courses are going to be in English and Spanish, will the price be higher?

Monsignor: We need to discuss the expenses beyond the cost of the course itself. Since this course will be done in English and Spanish the price will increase \$4,000 more. The total amount will be around \$20,000 of which most of the expenses will go to Hotels, Airfare and Meals, not too much will be going to their company.

Steven: are we bringing the Stubenville group here for training?

Monsignor: It is really a mission. The objective of this mission is to move people into the spots. The Stubenville program will come to our Church and will stay here for an entire week. Plus, they will be doing 8 months of work within our Parish mostly before and some after. The other reason for meeting with the Finance Council is that they want to know a little bit more about the Metrics of success related to the Stubenville mission group.

Sarah: Do we have any updates or information from Tom Noble about Adult faith formation? He had sent out a survey about upcoming opportunities for adult faith formation to be filled out by our parishioners after mass.

Monsignor: I have a lot of information about adult faith formation from Tom Noble: There was a higher percentage of people indicating interest in adult formation. Of the 57 responses we got, we had 35 who said they were very interested in adult formation, we had 21 somewhat interested and 1 person said not interested. Regarding topics most interested, people were able to vote for multiples answers that is why the numbers won't match up. 25 responses indicated they were interested in Church history, 33 for biblical studies, 19 for Mary and the Saints, with a comment with a series of the saints in a Americas or other areas of the world. Some also requested the Vatican Curio Bishops organization of the Church. 14 on Identity, gender and sexuality and Catholicism, 24 on Catholicism and Americas Fractured political environment with a comment on a balanced manner that focuses on Catholicism, 12 on Sanctity of life issues, 18 on real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, 22 on faith and science, there were 19 on ethics and everyday life. Under other; life in the spirit, theology of the body, spirituality in the workplace, enriching prayer life, other faith relations, like Muslim or others like Judaism.

Responsibility of the lay, opportunities and ways to help in Charlottesville witness Christ love. The great things the church is doing. Talks from each Ministry Pacem, Haiti, children ministries, etc. Another question was, when would you like to attend? 28 said Sunday between the masses, 15 said Sunday evening, 7 said weekdays mornings, 6 weekday afternoons, 24 said weekday evenings. Would you attend a Zoom session? 32 said yes, 15 said no, and 6 said maybe. For the responses we had 0 representing 25 and under, 10 representing 25- 45, 18 for ages 45 -65, and 26 for 65 plus. That is my information. The committee will take that and develop a plan. All this data was put in graphic bars, pie charts and is available as a reference.

IV. Ministry Fair

Sarah: Our next topic is the Ministry fair.

Monsignor: As for the Ministry fair, I sent a new date as there was a scheduling conflict with the old date. If anyone else would like to help, there are members of the staff that are willing to do somethings. So, we have the dates set up already, do we know what the dates are?

Sarah: The dates are Saturday October 15, and Sunday October 16. What was communicated is that the staff is excited about the Ministry fair, but the challenge is how to set up, organize and contact leaders for each of the ministries, and get everything ready for that day.

Monsignor: I am willing to set up a zoom meeting to communicate between staff and PC members for the purpose of this Ministry Fair. It will be better if there are some representatives from each of the ministries at the fair that can engage and talk to people about what they do in their ministries. They will be able to present their ministry work and show different ways that Parishioners can get involved. This way it will be more useful than just having a poster on a table.

Michelle: it will also be helpful to have some papers or handouts that they can take with them regarding each ministry and their contact information.

Monsignor: I would really appreciate if someone on this committee can somehow set up a time with staff to plan and make arrangements to make this fair happen. I know Jean and Martha are very interested in helping out with this event, as well as Sarah Phillips.

Sarah: One of the ideas to help engage people could be with a scavenger hunt. In this way everyone can check off every table, and kind of encourage people to find information about all the possible ministries in our parish, and what they do.

Carmen: I think that the people that might come to the fair, are looking for what the church is offering to them. At the same time, they are trying to find how they can fit in one of these ministries and see how they can serve and find an appropriate niche to serve in a particular ministry in our Parish. This will help also with integration and volunteering.

I will reach out to some leaders of different ministries and will try to meet with the staff members to coordinate and see what is necessary to gather specific details for the Ministry Fair. I will also ask help from other members of the Parish Council to contribute to this planning.

Sarah: We need ways to advertise this upcoming event to our Parish community either by flocknotes or via email, at least to let them know about the dates of the fair, and maybe announce it during mass.

Michelle: It will be nice to give the Ministry groups a heads up so they will have the time to prepare their material for the fair.

Monsignor: Right now, you have to get in contact with the staff and coordinate with them. Jean would be the person to ask for more information and the Ministry leaders can get in touch with Sarah Phillips for more details.

Sarah: Marissa, would you be able to help communicate this Ministry fair event with the Spanish leadership and invite the Hispanic ministries to attend to the fair?

Monsignor: Yes. Marissa can you please pass along this information about the fair to all the Hispanic ministries: Legion of Mary, Kerygma, funeral Ministry, Prayer Ministry and some others.

V. Committee updates. Multicultural

Sarah: Moving on with our list, do we have an update from Hispanic leadership? Talking to Carmen about the Multicultural committee we found out that the tamales sale was very successful. We might consider doing it again.

Mark: Monsignor, I would like to commend you on the level of detail given on the funding need provided to the Parish on the announcements during mass. Our Parishioners were given a very concrete sense about what the need was for the fundraising. It is helpful to know what amount was needed and the way these funds will be distributed. I just wanted you to know that it was a good way to communicate that.

Sarah: Carmen have you had contact with Jose Luis as far as communicating the upcoming events, or is this still a challenge?

Carmen: They were not completely sure on whether they are ready to send the list of activities or not. They stated that they need to run it through Monsignor first. For the majority of these activities, we just need to get a brief message out so we can make sure to announce them to the whole community. The main Hispanic celebrations are posted on the Incarnation Calendar for everybody to see. We just want to have the additional fundraising activities dates to share this information with our Parishioners and ask for their participation and support. Especially within our Spanish community.

Monsignor: I have an update under multicultural and also have some news to give you. We were approached by UVA, Dr. Max Luna. He spoke about a health fair for Latinos in the community. The fair is known as Latinex Health Fair. It is scheduled for October 8. It is going to happen here at Incarnation, around 10:00 to 3:00. They are looking to bring Dental Health, Eye exams and other Medical Care. They will have the ability to do follow-ups with the patients.

Sarah: This will be a good opportunity to attract folks that attend the health care fair, but also attract volunteers that can engage our community as well. Now moving to another topic, are there any hospitality committee updates?

Monsignor: There was a technical issue with Electronic Bulletin board but that got resolved and Mandy Kowalski should be ready to go live with electronic board very soon.

Sarah: I was wondering how is Patti advertising the Litnics?

Carmen: There was an announcement on Flocknotes and it was also announced at the end of the English masses. Will the Litnics activity be bilingual?

Monsignor: Patti is organizing and inviting all members of our Parish community who would like to attend to come to her house for a liturgy, (mass) plus gathering and sharing some food after that. There were comments from people that participated in litnics before and they are looking forward to start it again.

VI. Parish Safety

Sarah: One of the topics discussed for safety was the Virtus Training.

Monsignor: There is an in person and an online version of the Virtus training. Missy Bishop is the contact person for those trainings in our parish. She will be offering a Virtus training course in person. There is an interest also in looking for information about active shooting training.

VII. Finance Council Update (Steven Sisman)

Sarah: Steven do you have any updates from the Finance council?

Steven: They are looking for pastoral council candidates. Process of selection is done by Monsignor. There were some interviews made for the maintainece coordinator position.

Monsignor: We are still looking for a communication position and will all depend on budget.

Pastor Notes

Monsignor will have notes for next meeting.

Closing Prayer

Rev. Msgr. Timothy E. Kearney
Sept 28, 2022

Mark Nul 9/28/2022

