

CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Pastoral Council Minutes

Wednesday, September 28th, 2022

Attendance:

Mark Niehaus ✓

Will Cecere ✓

Patti Clifford ✓

Elena Riestra-King ✓

Marianne Kish ✓

Msgr. Keeney ✓

Tom Noble ✓

Martin Watjen ✓ (Stubenville)

Carmen Chandross ✓

Steven Sisman ✓

Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM.

- I. Opening Prayer: Night Prayer led by Patti Clifford.
Approval of minutes.
Motion to approve August minutes passed unanimously.

II. Discussion and updates about the Stubenville Mission Project

Monsignor: We have to readjust the agenda to bring Martin Watjen on to talk about the potential Mission from Stubenville which is the purpose of why I am excited about, and it is really following on the synod and synodality stuff. The whole purpose would be to set us up for quads or space sharing. Those quads would last for a year. Then the idea would be to break up and invite three other people to join them, they will have to know them, so it grows that way. There is also material that support this project.

Martin Watjen : (He joined the conversation)

Monsignor: We have some new members in our Pastoral Council, and I would like to let them know about the Mission. This mission can be done bilingually, they will send the worship leader, mission coordinator and a speaker for the mission. They will also send someone who can do this in Spanish. The music and the liturgy person will be fully bilingual. There is a cost because they will journey with us for about 8 months before and after the mission to make sure that it was launched. The cost will be about just under \$15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars). Because that is a significant commitment specially since it is not in our budget, we wanted to have both, our Finance Council and Pastoral Council to be consulted about if this is the direction we wanted to go. Martin Can you take over from there I just wanted to do a little introduction.

Martin Watjen: Thank you all for let me join your meeting this evening. One of the things that we decided to do is trying to figure it out what the other individuals are doing that is working well, so when our parish missions were created, we wanted to do something that we thought was going to work well, something that we knew is going to work well. One of those things is this idea of do more of a ticket-based model. Is not that the parish pays out for the mission but rather that we do a ticket-based model and if you want the parish to subsidize some of the tickets for the parishioners then you can do that.

Monsignor: The Parish ultimately doesn't have to pay for this mission. The way that they have it set up is selling tickets for \$25 dollars for the three nights of the mission. The question is, do we want to do that? or we wanted to be subsidized? That is part of our discussion here. If we do, we have to sell 425 tickets I believe, and if we do not sell all the tickets, then the parish also will be responsible for the difference.

Martin Watjen: If we do the math on that it will be 10, 600 about. Monsignor was talking about just under 15,000. The reason for the difference is because for a bilingual mission we will be bringing a second speaker, so there will be the original team which will be a speaker, a worship leader, and a program director to make sure that the whole thing will go without a hitch. For the second speaker, just that cost for stipend a flight, and a hotel will be something additional just about above \$4,000. That is not us making more money, it is just to bring another person and covering their expenses. We will do that at cost no making extra money. We love the idea of the possibility of this bilingual mission, Monsignor and Father Dan came to us with this desire and it is very doable. We have a worship leader that is bilingual. The goal will be to have everyone come together. Let me tell you a little bit about the structure of this parish mission, what we come out with is, a three-night parish mission about 6:30 to 8:30pm, it is a Sunday, Monday, Tuesday these are the recommended days. The parish mission will start off with about 20 or so minutes of worship it will then flow into a 40-minute talk. We will then have adoration for about a half hour, a little bit more and then we will end with a host wrap up or speaker wrap up with a testimony from your parish and close it out with a final song of worship. The difference with the bilingual mission is everyone will be together with everything except for the talk, so we will have to incorporate 15 minutes to transit to and from wherever the venue is.

The mission itself is our attempt to kind of bring what we do here on campus out to the world. We are able to get anywhere from 8, 10, 12 people to a parish to come to a conference and now we have the opportunity to go to a parish and minister to 400 people and that is our primary focus. Our wise is to be a witness of the love of Christ to the world. This is the way we find is very doable, practical and necessary as I hear so many stories from parishes about the lack of people coming to mass, the challenges after covid the two greatest commandments that God gave us to love, to know and love our neighbors like we love ourselves that relationship between us.

III. Thanks to outgoing council members:
Will Cecere and Lesly Aleman

IV. Welcome to our New council members starting 10/2022
Tom Noble (3 years)
Patti Clifford (reappointment for 3 years)
Carmen Chandross (reappointment for 3 years)
Mike Reilly (appointed by Msgr for 1 year)
Elena Riestra-King (appointed by Msgr for 1 year) Member of Hispanic community

V. Orientation for new members
Recommended books
Shared folder for documents
Minutes for past 12 months

VI. Council reactions to Small Group concept presented by Steubenville Conferences, affiliated with Franciscan University:

- Most important topic was trying to find metrics that can show effectiveness of this Mission program.
- How this Mission project will promote small groups in our Church community
- Growing up on our faith and expand it, make it grow.
- How do we present this group as a complement to other existing groups in our parish.
- How are we going to finance this Mission Project
- Concern that if we do not do this mission, we can miss a chance of growing as a community and build relationships.
- How will this small groups impact our Hispanic community
- Msgr presented intro of program (8-month program, bilingual, ~\$15,000)
- Steering committee of 10, plus priests, meet monthly for 6 months, then mission, then f/u meeting 1 month later
- Mission: age 10+
- Quads: age 18+
- Martin: parish mission x3 nights, \$25 ticket to help cover costs of program, would need 425 tickets sold to cover cost; Sun, Mon, Tues 630-830; 20 minutes worship, 40 minutes talk (separate by language), adoration, host wrap-up with parishioner testimonial, song
- Intent is to bring what they do on campus to a parish- be a witness to the love of Christ to the world.
- Goal is to go back to the core of what it means to be a Christian, promote the Quad program

- Team: speaker, worship leader (bilingual), program coordinator, 2nd speaker for Spanish.
- Discipleship Quads Program: “Go and make disciples of all nations,” Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew. To assist Catholics in answering this call, the Christian Outreach Office of Franciscan University of Steubenville recently announced the launch of Discipleship Quads, an initiative designed to lead groups of four people through a year-long journey of discipleship. Each person would then invite 3 new people to create a new quad
- www.franciscan.edu/discipleship-quads
- www.steubenvilleconferences.com/discipleship-quads
- Msgr: are there metrics available for assessing follow up/persistence? So far promotion needs more detailed information.
- Marianne: is ROI for the 3-day mission worth the cost? Can Msgr speak with a pastor, or are there other testimonials available?
- Mark and Patti: very similar to Cursillo
- Msgr: Cursillo transforms lives, but not a parish
- Marianne: consider deferring decision on mission x1 year, trial of a few Quads
- Parish has a week set aside for Mission in early March (early Lent)

VII. Reschedule November meeting b/c of Thanksgiving

- Thursday 11/17?
- December meeting social at Rectory, include Our Lady of the Rosary PC

VIII. Committee Updates

IX. Finance Council update

Steven will provide updates next PC meeting.

X. Hispanic leadership update / Old Business

We will ask Marissa for updates next PC meeting.

XI. Ministry Fair

1. Clarification of scheduled time
2. Parish staff to take lead on notifying ministry leads
3. Use this as an opportunity to promote our updated Mission & Vision statement. (Poster)

XII. Pastor's Notes

- Regional population growth estimate (higher proportion of Hispanic) projected 2026: 4% total, 13% Spanish-speaking
- Thanksgiving dinner for people who will be alone (1 or 2)

- Need a coordinator and help (More details Martha Daley)

XIII. Virtus training

Check available dates to attend training if needed. Marianne will send updates by email.

XIV. Open Forum

XV. Meeting Takeaways (Objectives and To Dos)

DISCIPLESHIP QUAD BASICS

WHAT IS A DISCIPLESHIP QUAD?

A Discipleship Quad is a group of four people who journey together as disciples through weekly gatherings of fellowship, ongoing conversion, and learning. This 12-month path of accompaniment fosters growth through prayer, accountability, and authentic relationships. The process may take a few months longer than a year, depending on how often the group needs to reschedule and how quickly they go through the material. All members of a Quad should be of the same sex to create an atmosphere of intimacy and vulnerability for sharing. Each Quad has a Coordinator, who serves the temporal needs of the Quad and helps facilitate the conversations by modeling authenticity. The Quad Coordinator is the person who starts the Quad. This process of discipleship is initiated by the Quad Coordinator, though the journey of discipling takes place in the community formed by the four members of the Quad. It could be described as peer-to-peer discipling, in that it does not have a hierarchical structure, where one leader is passing along his or her knowledge to the others. Rather, a Discipleship Quad is made up of four people who are committed to growing closer to Jesus as his disciples by learning together, sharing life in community, and creating a place for accountability in this journey.

WHO IS A DISCIPLESHIP QUAD FOR?

A Discipleship Quad is for any person who has a desire to grow in faith as a Catholic and will commit to adhere to all components of the Discipleship Quad Commitment. A Quad can be made up of people at any level of spiritual maturity, from long-time, committed Catholics to those who are just beginning their spiritual journey with Jesus. In addition to growing as disciples, Quad members should desire to be formed as disciple-makers.

THE BENEFIT TO THE INDIVIDUAL

The benefit of a Discipleship Quad to each individual person is knowing the love of Jesus Christ and deepening a relationship with him. Those who have experienced that love and made the decision to follow Christ would never go back to a life without him. The reason for this is that their lives were changed forever after knowing his unconditional love. The truth is that this life is available to everyone who genuinely wants to grow in faith— who wants a relationship with our Lord and Savior. The Discipleship Quad is a proven way to others experience such help a relationship. Jesus is critical to our ongoing growth in faith and, as such, our peace, joy, and fulfillment in life. Community, and fellowship with those on the same journey are also important. As part of a Discipleship Quad, you will get to learn with and from others, pray for and with one another, and share life with those who will become good friends, in an otherwise incredibly busy and complicated world. An outreach of Franciscan University of Steubenville.

XVI. Closing Prayer

Mark Niehaus
Mark Niehaus, chair
Nov 19, 2022
Rev. Msgr. Timothy E. Keen