

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

June 14, 2022

Call to Order: 7:07 by Chriss Lawrence

Opening Prayer: Julie Trist said the opening prayer.

Attendance: Fr. Gregory, Chriss Lawrence, Wayne Savage, Diane Coppola, Tim Brown, Greg Vuyovich, Charles Patullo, Walter Priest, and Jim Trist.

Vision Statement: The Council read the Parish Vision Statement in unison.

Pastor's Comments: One of the council's biggest concerns is attendance, and how to bring people back to Mass. Father did a comparison to July 2019 and determined that attendance is down to 69%. We have begun to look into mailing postcards to parishioners on record, as well as the local community. This was first discussed in August 2021. Many options were discussed regarding how to accomplish this, for example, using an outside vendor for mailing lists, printing etc. we have also discussed contacting the dioceses to see what they recommend. Tim has offered to look into it. Father went on to discuss Eucharistic bread. If we move forward with this idea, what are the regulations concerned with it? We discussed checking with the health department.

Formation: The Council jumped ahead, and read paragraphs 122 to 126 of the Pope Francis' Encyclical "The Joy of The Gospel"

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes: The May 2022 minutes were approved by all in attendance.

Youth Ministry: We have still had no serious applications in spite of the multiple listings and various venues we have advertised. We discussed whether or not we are putting the horse before the Cart. We have very few youths, and no youth minister. Do we hire a minister in hopes that the youth will come, or do we try to get the youths to return, and hire a minister...if one can be found?

New Business:

Events: The parish Council Litnic will be held July 19th at 6:00 PM at the home of Charlie and Ann Patullo. This is for all Council members and their family. Please bring a dish to share. Chriss will send out an email so everyone will know what is being brought for a variety.

Cultural: Charlie had looked into twinning with a Church in Haiti, and it was determined that their schools need us more. Tim will look into how we can fulfill such a commitment. We would have to contact them and let them define their needs, then we can see if we can meet them. We

discussed asking the Parish to pray about this. We want to move forward with the Haitian Twinning and have a line item to cover those donations and expenses when the time comes.

Nominations: It is now on the parish website to nominate someone for the council. We will then have an informational meeting for new nominees. We will announce it at the Saturday June 25th mass, as well as Sunday the 26th. Jim will announce Saturday, Tim will take the 8am mass, and Diane the 10:30 mass on Sunday.

Announcements: Thanks to Julie for the opening and closing prayer, and Jim for the refreshments.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is Tuesday September 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Learning Center.

Closing Prayers: Julie Trist led us with a closing prayer.

Adjournment: Chriss Lawrence adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.