

**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**May 21, 2024**

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by Pat

Attendance: Fr. Gregory, Pat Moynihan, Walter Priest, Joann Holaday, Dennis Tate, Karen Melendez, Tim Brown, Karl Ittner, Diane Coppola

Opening Prayer: Karl read the opening prayer.

Vision Statement: The vision statement was not read. New copies will be available at the next meeting.

Pastor Comments: Father Gregory discussed Kitty's funeral, well attended, 8<sup>th</sup> funeral this year. There were four 1<sup>st</sup> communicants this Sunday. We have a member of our parish who has applied for the youth minister position. We have an interested person for the director of music. Litnics will be starting up again.

Formation: The council continued reading Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation on the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of St. Therese. We read paragraphs 40-47 and discussed.

Refreshments: Refreshments were provided by Diane.

Old Business:

Approval of minutes from April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were voted on and approved.

Discussed parish Mission with Mario Dance – 75 people showed up the first night and approximately the same number the next three nights. Over \$1000 was collected for Mario. Council agreed the Mission was very good and parishioners expressed interest in another retreat led by Mario. Some would like to see a more "hands on" discussion of how to approach people on evangelization.

Pat gave a discussion on the current state of handicap seating at masses.

Haiti update – Walter gave a discussion on a book he read about the history of Haiti.

New Business:

Planning for Pastoral Council nominations. Tim is stepping down after 6 years. Diane is at the end of her 3<sup>rd</sup> year and is contemplating whether to stay on or step down due to her workload. Greg resigned this year. Council members will be making announcements at Masses the weekend of June 15 and 16 on the nomination process.

Pat – 5pm on June 15

Karl – 8am on June 16

Diane – 10:30am on June 16

Pastoral Council meetings during the summer. A short discussion but no decision on dates. Fr Gregory asked if a council member could hold a Litnic for the Pastoral Council in either July or August – Charlie held them the previous two summers. Members will check and get back to the Council.

Tim discussed the Deanery meeting. There was an update on the Haiti fundraising effort, Baptismal font, evangelization discussion, briefings from the Finance Council.

Playground for children. Joann gave a thorough review of her research into the possibility of putting in a playground on church grounds. She covered cost, how much space is needed, possible age ranges for different types of playground equipment, insurance requirements, etc. There was talk about possibly getting contributions from Bingo, KOC, Theresians. All agreed it was a very detailed review. The equipment is expensive and Fr Gregory asked Council members to make sure it aligned with our Vision Statement and to pray on it. A decision will be made on whether to go forward with it or not.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is June 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Meeting Room. Opening and closing prayers will be led by Charlie and Joann will provide refreshments.

Closing Prayers: Karl led the Council in closing prayer.

Adjournment: Pat Moynihan adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.