

Pastoral Council  
Summary Meeting Minutes  
September 4, 2024

**In Attendance:** Fr. James, Jamie Bescak, Pam Boggs, Lani Gore, Marilyn Johnston, Mike Low, Frank Polimene, Chris Smith, Russ Spencer, Deacon Ed Winklebauer

**Excused:** Jerry Biegler, Fr. Augustine

**Guest:** Nora Phillips

**Visitor:** Larry Phillips, Mike Templeton

6:30 pm Meeting called to order

Opening reflection on the past week's Gospel by Frank.

Roll call verified a quorum.

Chris motioned to approve the minutes and Frank seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

**GUEST PRESENTATION:** Nora Phillips presented the history of the Christ Child Society which is now in its 40<sup>th</sup> year here in Phoenix. The Society partners with 26 agencies in providing layettes, quilts, hats, bed bags, etc to those in need. They have 164 members and need more to fulfill all the requests they receive.

**Proposal:** To form a Christ Child Society Ministry at St. Benedict.

Nora was thanked for her very passionate presentation; she and her husband Larry left the meeting.

**ST. JOHN BOSCO REPORT – Jamie**

- The Gala is September 28<sup>th</sup> and is sold out. There will be online bidding. This year they have more community sponsors and a new TITLE SPONSOR (\$20,000 sponsor). Proceeds will go toward a new jungle gym structure, facility update, etc.
- Thank you to St. Benedict for partnering with the school on the Harvest Fest.
- Jamie passed out the school Strategic Plan for all to look over.
- Prayers are requested for Theresa Harvey the school librarian who will have surgery on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

**MINISTRY REPORTS**

Events-Lani

- August 26<sup>th</sup> was the first meeting of the Events Committee. There is an approval process for any proposed event. The event idea should go to Lani first and she will present it to Father James and the Staff. There are approximately 125 names on the volunteer list; about 20% volunteer at events and provide snacks when needed.
- September 8<sup>th</sup> is the first Welcoming Sunday after the 9 am Mass.
- September 29<sup>th</sup> we'll have an Altar Server Appreciation reception
- October 5<sup>th</sup> –Women's Spirituality resumes at 10 am in Annex 1.
- October 26<sup>th</sup> is the SJB Harvest Festival; we've discussed doing a Bake Walk

- October 6<sup>th</sup> is the next Welcome Sunday.
- November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Women’s Spirituality
- November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Welcome Sunday
- November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – Ministry Fair
- Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> - BBQ and Boot Scoot
- Dcn Ed asked if we were having the Angel Giving Tree at Christmas. This was referred to Maryola.

Knights of Columbus – Mike

- Proceeds from the State Raffle went to St. VdP - \$3400 +
- August 2<sup>nd</sup>, Knights coordinated the Parish Adoration
- Council Knight Fr. Kevin Mc Grady was here and said the 5 pm Mass on August 26<sup>th</sup>.
- We had speakers inviting men to join us on Membership Sunday. The Charity, Unity, Fraternity ceremony was held after the 5 pm Mass.
- August 28<sup>th</sup> is the next Parish Rosary
- September 22<sup>nd</sup> is the next Blood Drive; contact Mike Low and Michael Scheller
- The Knights are considering moving their Essay Contest earlier in the school year.
- Ken Garcia is the lead for Rosary Sunday which is October 27th

Building Update –nothing new at this time.

**PASTOR’S REPORT** – Fr. James

- A thank you to Sebastian Alcaraz for having considered a place on the Pastoral Council. Unfortunately he is unable to make Wednesday meetings. Fr. is looking for a replacement for this appointed position.
- Thank you F Dcn Ed and Frank for their daily presence, fixings things as they come up.
- Thank you to Lani for her leadership and planning ahead.
- A thank you to the parishioners who helped in the outside maintenance, trimming plants and trees. Fr. is considering a landscape company.
- Please welcome Erin Fish as the new Youth Minister.
- Bible Study Adult Formation will begin September 23- November 18<sup>th</sup>. Sr. Liza will be the facilitator. This is a video based program.
- September 15<sup>th</sup> is Catechetical Sunday and we will recognize all our teachers.
- We expect to open the Gift Shop in October.
- There is a new conference table in the Bride’s Room that will seat 8 – 10.
- September 29<sup>th</sup> –There will be an Altar Server appreciation reception following the 9 and 11 am Masses.
- On October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> members of the Via Christi Society will lead all Masses and share their mission with us.
- We are working on a Volunteer Appreciation Night and Directory.
- Fr. is working on the Annual Pastoral Report
- Fr. has asked the Pastoral Council members to compile a History of St. Benedict which may include interviews with long time parishioners. The Staff will be compiling past bulletins, pictures, event notices, etc.

Lani motioned for the Council to go into closed session in order to discuss the proposal on the Christ Child Society. Mike seconded. Mike Templeton left at this time.

Council went into closed session. Russ and Fr. James will follow up with Nora.

#### **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Jamie suggested members check out the Hallow app. for prayer and meditation.
- Chris noted that St VdP will be hosting a Food Drive this coming weekend to replenish their pantry. They also will be having an Adopt A Family Program at Christmas.
- Marilyn has requested someone to take minutes at the next meeting. Pam, Lani and Russ all volunteered.

Mike Templeton was asked to return to the meeting.

#### **EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT –Mike Templeton**

Proposal: The SJB statue on the side of the Church does not have any backing on it. The Scout is proposing to take the available stone and make the backing for the statue. Deacon Ed and Frank indicated that there is a project in the works for some of that stone which was gifted to the parish. Before any further decisions could be made, they will take measurements to determine feasibility. Mike noted that the Scout will turn 18 in October, so there is some urgency to this proposal. Once measurements are take, Fr. James and Russ will further discuss the project and get back to Mike. No further discussion or action taken at this time.

October 2<sup>nd</sup> is our next meeting.

8:17 pm Russ closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Johnston, Secretary