

Saint Edwards Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 1/26/2023

Attendees: (Present Excused)

Father Robert Chinnapan , Deacon Jeff Hofacker , Kim Goffard , Tim Pitsch , Patrick Berg ,
Merl Verhagen , JoAnn Krueger , Darlene Hansen

Opening Prayer was led by Deacon Jeff

Previous Meeting Minutes were approved by the council

Lectio Divina was led by Merl and Kim.

Pastor's Report

Father Robert was attending a retreat so no report was available. Kim did indicate that Father said we will continue to share the priest with St Nicholas.

Deacon's Report

Deacon Jeff continues with his community outreach activities visiting the home bound in the afternoons and communion services on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There were 3 new servers trained over the past month. There were a couple of funerals a few weeks ago. Jeff met with the families to support their needs. Jeff also indicated that confirmation is coming up on February 18th. For the foreseeable future, St Edwards is the designated confirmation site for St Mary's, St Nicholas and St Edwards.

Agenda Topics:

Parish Mission Planning Updates (Content provided by Celia McKee)

The kiosk is more of informational space in the Gathering Area. Mary and Paul Hildebrand did a great job putting up the slat walls. This will be a place to educate anyone on what is going on at the parish and school, while also keeping flyers more contained in one area as opposed to on every door. Less cluttered.

We have individuals who fill the baskets by the door with a themed item as a sign of hospitality (this has at least temporarily replaced the fishing pond). The items are being grabbed by every age group.

Children's area with the bags, white boards, books, parent resources, etc. has been a nice welcome by families.

We have a volunteer who keeps the emergency personal care items in the bathrooms filled.

We are to be meeting with families/parents to create bonds both at school and at the parish. Instead of creating one more thing for busy parents, we are incorporating them into what we already have scheduled. Home & School Meetings, Mom & Tots (which has been growing in size), more Family Nights in NE during the school year, Summer Playground Group, and Sacrament Prep. The hope is that community is built, and they will feel more comfortable coming to Mass and/or events if they have connections with people.

We have been really working to clean up all the student contacts in our system (quite outdated) so we can follow up with anyone who should be in a Catholic School or NE. Even if they don't end up registering, at least we can make contact and be sure they know they are welcome!

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Bishop Ricken's Pastoral Letter (Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist)

Father Robert requested that the council revisit the rollout of the Pastoral letter. There are five come alive practices that the bishop wants for us as Catholics to study in order for us to get back to our catholic roots. These practices include: Praying the Rosary, Encountering Jesus in Adoration and Holy Mass, Confession and Lectio Divina. The diocese expects the rollout to begin with the parish councils and committees and then rolled out further within the parishes.

Kim had requested hard copies of the 48-page letter from the diocese for the council to read. Once hard copies are received, she will get them to council members during mass. There is also a study guide that Kim will request. Once received, the council will take a month to read. Kim will then set up time for the council to get together to review as a group and determine a rollout plan.

Evangelization (Women's and men's groups)

Kim said that Mary Hildebrandt indicated that "Mom and Tots" is going well

Kim indicated that Patrick is leading "Shop Talk" which is a men's bible study group. Kim talked to Terry Woelfel who attended the study group and he indicated that there was better than expected sharing and participation by the group.

Finally, Kim talked about the Advent women's short bible study group "Blessed is She". This group is getting back together the week of 1/29 to discuss if they want to use the same product and continue this study group for Lent.

Catholic School's Week

Catholic School's week will start with mass on 1/29 and continue through the following week and leading up to Father Robert celebrating mass on Friday 2/3.

Pictorial Directory

Pat Coonen contacted Father Robert, Deacon Jeff and Kim asking about the directory. It has been around 2017 since the last directory was created. The council agreed that we need a new directory and it would support the 175th anniversary. JoAnn volunteered to help with the directory and Kim will ask Erin to put something in the bulletin requesting additional volunteers.

Fish Fries

The Fish Fry starts on February 24th. The dinner prices have increased and is posted on the website.

There was discission regarding if stations of the cross will occur on Friday evening during Lent. No decision has yet been determined. Jeff did say that having the stations on Friday's did bring more people in than what had traditionally attended. The concern is that those working the Fish Fry would not be able to attend the stations. The Worship Committee will need to make the final determination if this will occur.

Display Case

There are a number of beautiful artifacts that would be nice to have displayed for the 175th anniversary. Due to the number of items we will need to determine additional space or rotate the items. Jeff brought up that we could have shelves put up in the gathering space high enough to protect the artifacts but yet be visible. The council also discussed that we could utilize the area along the wall where the coat racks currently are for a

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wall of history. The coat rack area would be a good area for a large display case (similar to trophy cases in high schools). The council felt that we need to get new pricing for display case locations/options and shelving.

Jeff indicated that he had items from Father Gross that he would be willing to donate or could be used if we rotate artifacts.

The council also discussed that as part of the 175th anniversary that we should look at the opportunity of celebrating a mass that incorporates the historical artifacts.

Additional Council Member

Council members were asked to start thinking about new individuals who could be on the council next year. Additionally, we will need to find a new Chair because Kim cannot Chair the council more than 2 years in a row (based on council rules).

The meeting was closed by a prayer led by Deacon Jeff

Upcoming Meetings:

- 3/23/23 @ 6:30 PM
- 5/25/23 @ 6:30 PM

Reference:

The council identified the following individuals to be the liaison between the parish council and the committees:

Committee	Parish Council Liaison
Worship / Music	Father Robert, Deacon Jeff
Fish Fry	JoAnn Krueger
Harvest Moon	Patrick Berg
Home and School	Deacon Jeff
Tracker Pull	Tim Pitsch
Buildings and Grounds	Deacon Jeff
Cemetery	Deacon Jeff
Finance Council	Father Robert, Deacon Jeff
175 TH Anniversary	Darleen Hansen