

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING 1-18-2024**

Meeting was convened at 6:35 p.m. in the rectory.

**Present** – Father Joe, Kathryn Moery, John Riordan, Matthew Lee-Own, Michael Griffin, Jorge Otero, Katie Pomroy, Ray Hufnagel, Adam White

**Opening Prayer** – Adam delivered the opening prayer: “[The Most Powerful Healing Prayer](#)” by St. Padre Pio. Adam shared a personal story of how this prayer helped him and his family through the illness of a family member.

**Minutes** – Minutes of the 12-21-2023 PPC meeting were reviewed and approved without correction.

**Announcements** –

- Fr. Joe provided an update on the status of pew renovation
  - o Installation of tile and carpeting was on schedule with an anticipated completion date of Saturday, January 21, 2024.
  - o Some of the old pews found a home and were able to be repurposed
- Capital Campaign
  - o The Archdiocese has started another Capital Campaign pledge drive
  - o The Capital Campaign invites parishioners to make a pledge over the course of 5 years

**Book Discussion [15 mins]** – Discussion was opened into Chapters 9, 10 & 11 of Divine Renovation: Beyond the Parish.

- Kathryn opened the discussion stating how she enjoyed these chapters specifically in reflecting on how the Pastoral Council provides leadership and advice
- Book discussion centered around the types of leadership that can occur within the Church or group organization
- Fr. Mallon speaks to the reader and includes us in the process of revitalization – the responsibility of evangelization is with the parishioners as well as the Pastor
- Fr. Joe commented that Fr. Mallon talks about being good at “visioning” or conceptualizing but poor at “people skills” or empathizing with where people are in the process

- Fr. Mallon realized his original position that when people “quit”, the mission would be better off without them but perhaps failed to consider what they had to contribute
- John noted that while some parishes may be struggling, most have what they need within them to renew and come out of maintenance mode
- Fr. Joe mentioned that our Alpha ministry is to encourage Parishioners to understand that they have a mission in the world as “Priest, Prophet and King” – these are our three roles by virtue of our Baptism
- Comment was made that people often fall into routines of being “consumers” of the faith and not taking an active role.
  - In the past the Church did not traditionally place formal demands on lay people in terms of missionary / evangelization work
- Michael brought up that there was an element of being “noticed” in the community based on attendance at Mass. People knew when members of the community were not in Church in the past. In modern times it is possible not to be as “known” in the Church community.
- Fr. Joe commented that the Church was interwoven as part of the social fabric and that there was an underlying social pressure to attend.

### PPC Bylaws

- The Parish Council reviewed the bylaws of the organization with reflection on the mission of the Pastoral Council

### Old Business [20 minutes]

- **Update on Couples Event for 2024** – Fr. Joe provided an update on the status of the Couples & Newlyweds event –
  - April 13<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Couples Event
    - Cathy Cahill will assist with this too
  - Event would include some discussion, presentation, Mass and end with a brunch
  - Cathy is working on getting emails to send to prospective attendees to “save the date”
  - Anticipate that a couple hundred people would be sent invites
- **Website Update deferred to Feb meeting**
- **Young Adult Engagement:** Adam provided an update and tentative schedule for Young Adult engagement in the parish.

- Hallow App – Katie provided an update on status of incorporating the Hallow app into the Parish.
  - Katie had a demo with the developer and determined that there is a desire to engage with Parishes and religious organizations more – willing to meet with PPC via Zoom
  - The app itself costs \$69.99 / year or \$9.99 / month
  - App has several free features like the daily Rosary
  - Parish can pay a flat rate of \$999 for multiple people to access the app as opposed to individual purchases
    - Will need approximately 15 Parishioners to use this in order to break even
  - Action items were to get a report on how many people from the Parish would be interested in using the app
  
- **Planning for Fr. Joe's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – Members of the Special Events Committee will be planning celebrations for Fr. Joe's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination.

**New Business [5 minutes]**

- Welcome New Parishioners Event hosted by PPC in September
  - PPC may want to reach out to the people from the council who helped with the event last year and see if they would be willing to assist again in Sept

**Closing Prayer** – Father Joe delivered the closing prayer.