**St. Peter Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 8, 2022

Attendance

* Fr. Jeremy Secrist, Pastor: Present
* Fr. Paschal Ihediohamma, Pastor: Present
* Brad Shimmens, President: Present
* Andy Rackers, Vice President: Present
* Nathan Raymer, Secretary: Present
* Kathy Hillen: Present
* Theresa Stegeman: Present
* Diane Struemph: Present
* Dr. Conrad Balcer: Present
* Jeff Luebbert: Present
* Michelle Truesdale: Present
* Gayle Trachsel: Present
* Deacon Enrique Castro: Absent

Pastor Update and Discussion

* No further info on the Pews or the confessionals
  + If they are not able to be put in by the end of Lent, it will likely be July before we can have them back in
  + There are weddings booked up through the end of June
  + Because the floor will need to have a new coat of finish put on it, we will miss a week in the church when we get the pews back
  + Father was encouraged to continue speaking to the people about it and keeping them aware
* Celebration Planning
  + Date: Aug 12th
  + Time: 5-9 PM
  + Live Music: Andy Rackers is reaching out to bands that might play
  + Kids area – Allow the kids to have a safe place to play (inflatables and other games)
  + Potential Dunking booth as a fundraiser
  + Beer Garden
  + Dessert Raffle and/or Country Store
    - Diane will be in contact with Rose and Bob Mehmert about the event
  + Food Trucks for primary food vending – Brad will reach out
* Mass time change
  + The Saturday Evening Vigil Mass will be changing to 5:15 from the current 4:30 starting April 9th until the Fall

School Update and Discussion

* The Teachers took a retreat to Our Lady of Sorrows at Starkenburg on Monday 3/7
* The School is making the transition with the rest of the diocese to Paylocity for payroll
  + The old system could not handle the number of diocesan employees
  + There were too many disconnected systems that had to be manually managed
  + There is now an automated process to synchronize these systems
* The Art teacher recently returned from a conference in New York with new project ideas to do with the kids
  + They are currently providing support and art to the people of Ukraine by sharing art they make and messages in Ukrainian over the internet
* The school is praying the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 2:30
* Covid numbers look good – in fact there are no cases that she is aware of
* Pre-School numbers are looking good. We are looking to have a full class this coming year
* Costs at the school are likely to go up across the board next school year, both food and tuition prices are going up
  + Costs are going up and the school continues to need to pay a just wage to all hourly workers who work at the school
* The Council discussed completing the addition from 2006.
  + The school needs more space to accomplish its work and to have room to grow
  + Father has the councils blessing to begin the process, but it will take a while for anything to really begin

Parish Council Nominees and Process

* It was requested that the members of the council start looking for potential people to recruit
* Brad wants to make a bigger push on recruiting to find interested and engaged potential members
  + Spoke of a time when the parish voted on 9 people to fill 3 seats
  + Michelle will give Brad a report on who has indicated for parish leadership or councils from Time and Talent form

Pastoral Plan Update

* There was a deanery meeting in February attended by Brad and Fr. Secrist
* The main takeaway for the Pastoral Council was a discussion of the role of Pastoral council
  + Our mission is to assist Father in his work as the leader of the Parish
  + We are looking at doing a Pastoral Council training in lieu of a future meeting as there is a new person at the diocese who offer training – Brad will reach out to Denise Barnes
* Further discussion on the outreach/ministry to young families and young adults
  + Continue to pray about it and seek input from others about things we could do to integrate them into the life of the parish

Comments for the Good of the Parish

* The recent absence of a collection basket from the ramp entrance has been noted and that will get fixed
* The return of the Sign of Peace was discussed. It was decided that unless there is a large push for it at the level of the parishioners, we would continue to omit it during Mass and let attendees handle it on their own
* Bringing back passed collection baskets was discussed, but that opened discussion of our lack of ushers at masses. If we don’t have ushers, we can’t pass baskets
* Father Paschal will be attending the Knights of Columbus meeting and speak to them about setting the example when it comes to filing needs at church, primarily, the role of ushers at Mass when the team is short-staffed
* World Day of the Poor – World Day of Community Care is November 13th, 2022

Next Meeting

* The next Parish Pastoral council meeting will be Tuesday May 3rd at 6:00 PM in Selinger
* Secretary, Nathan Raymer will not be able to attend due to work obligations and Vice President, Andy Rackers will fill the role of Secretary for that meeting