

St. John Paul Parish Council Minutes

April 24, 2024

“In communion with the Universal Church, and the Archdiocese of Louisville, our mission is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ by:

Worshiping God in word and sacrament;

Teaching and sharing our faith;

Serving human needs, especially of the poor and oppressed;

Promoting holiness of life through continuing conversion;

Fostering justice and reconciliation among all God’s people.

Meeting began with a prayer by Father Casey at 6:40.

Attending: Father Casey, Dan Amlung, Terry Becker, Ashley Curry, Tim Davis, Maria Frank, Kathy Huber, Frank Hulsman, Elaine Kennedy, and Rob Tichy.

Approval of February Minutes: had been done via email and by acclamation by those present. There was no March Meeting due to Easter Week.

Committee Reports: (for further information, contact the committee chairs via email.)

- **Administration Committees:** submitted by Terry Becker (terrymarybecker@gmail.com)
No report this month.
- **Formation Committee:** submitted by Maria Frank (maria.frank@lge-ku.com) no report this month.
- **Parish Life Committee:** submitted by Elaine Kennedy from information provided by Noli Jafier and Jim Sinnott
 1. The Phone Team Stats:
 - a. Contacts: 38
 - b. Messages Left 53
 - c. Disconnected 22
 - d. No Answer 7
 2. Needs, Concerns or Questions:
 - a. As usual, all appreciated the calls from the parish.
 - b. Several of our callers said that they could not get to church because of health issues. One said that the phone calls: “makes me feel like I still belong”.
 3. Meetings and Future Plans
 - A. The Team met on April 16 for our quarterly meeting.

1. In the future, we will ask parishioners if they are able to attend Mass and receive the Eucharist.
 - a. If they need the Eucharist brought to their house, we will contact the parish office.
 - B. The Team discussed and planned in detail how to assist the parish in updating the parishioners' files.
 1. The first list given to the team will be completed by April 30.
 2. More lists are expected. If these are extensive more volunteers will be needed in order to execute in a timely manner.
 - C. The next quarterly meeting will be held on July 16, 2024, at 6:30 pm in Room C of the Parish Life Center.
- Noli Jafier & Jim Sinnott

- **School Board Committee:** submitted by Tim Davis (tsdstar77@hotmail.com) no report this month.
- **Social Concerns Committees:** submitted by Dan Amlung (amlungdan@gmail.com)

1. Faithful Citizenship - Patsy Meyer

St. John Paul II will commemorate April 22 Earth Day with a 3 Weekend Display this month. Beginning with a Preview on Saturday April 13 and Sunday April 14, visit our display in church and talk with our Environmental Concerns Committee Members. The 2024 Theme is "Planet vs Plastic". Pick up a New Recycling Score Sheet and see how you can continue to reduce your plastic usage and replace your Styrofoam with biodegradable substitutes. A drawing for "Care for Creation prizes will be held on the third weekend for those who complete their Score Sheets.

2. Habitat For Humanity - Steve Hennessey

We will be working at 6710 Fernbush. This is an almost completed rehab. They have us doing baseboard and other trim work.

3. Social Services - Pattie Filley

I just wanted to let you know that the Food Pantry is on schedule to open at the end of June or after the fourth of July. The pantry is desperately needed in our area. This past weekend was Volunteer Sunday, and we were in the back of church for all masses to sign people up. We will just be getting their contact information and someone from the Food Council will contact them for opportunities to volunteer at the pantry. I hope you will sign up. Outside of the Pantry, I have been assisting people with utilities and doing Grief Counseling. I just finished a group and already have inquires as to when another one will be available. Right now, I am concentrating on the Food Pantry. Hopefully we will hear from Dare to Care today or tomorrow as to the final approval.

4. Food Collection for the Needy - Mary Ridenour

Starting this month of April, the monthly food collection will be donated to our new food pantry here at St John Paul II. Fern Creek Highview Ministries were informed that we would be starting a food pantry at St. JP II.

5. Clout - Chris Finzer

a. CLOUT and our Justice Ministry just held our largest event of the year: the Nehemiah Action Assembly on April 16, 2024. There were 3 Action Item events held during the assembly. The first involved Community Safety and Equity. Mayor Greenberg was present during this time, and he agreed to work closely with CLOUT to implement the Department of Justice Consent Decree to make our police department more equitable and just towards all citizens of Louisville.

b. The second involved "The Village" model program to help older adults age in place - at home. Two previous entities agreed to provide a Village model program but both of them failed to follow through with their commitments. A third agency has been found that is interested in implementing a Village, however. CLOUT had everyone present at the Action to fill out cards, and all of these cards will be presented to this agency at an upcoming meeting to demonstrate to them how much interest there is in a program that will provide supports to enable older adults to age in place.

c. Finally, the third Action Item event involved Children and Youth Concerns, especially as they relate to improving reading scores for children attending JCPS. Dr. Polio was unable to attend in-person, but he did send a video statement agreeing that JCPS will begin to provide a phonics-based reading program and that JCPS will meet with CLOUT in the coming 2 years to examine if this reading program is having the desired effect.

6. Card Writing - Terry Becker

The Card Ministry had its first in person meeting since the COVID restrictions. All those in attendance jumped in to fill the gap between one of our card ministers who is changing parishes. Each of the card ministers along with one new card minister on the team accepted an increase in the number of cards they will send out to our parishioners. The lists of Homebound, Nursing Home and Active Military have been updated due to the keen attention of our ministers.

Worship Committee: submitted by Terry Becker (terrymarybecker@gmail.com)

From Katherine Alberts: Our first Lent, Holy Week and Easter together went quite well. Many parishioners have come up to me and said how beautiful all the Masses were and how much they enjoyed the music.

The choir is preparing for the upcoming Masses for Ascension of the Lord, Pentecost, Holy Trinity, and Corpus Christi. We will take a needed break for the summer. The choir will sing at Corpus Christi and then return the first week of August.

For school, we will have our last Sunday Mass on May 12th at 10:30. We will start back in September. The school choir is working on being stronger singers. More students are working toward being cantors.

I am working on an Organ Dedication Recital for June 9th at 3pm. Right now, it is in the early planning stage. More information to come.

The Arts and Environment Team worked hard to prepare the church for Easter displaying lots of Easter Lilies!

Daily Mass times on Mondays will be eliminated soon. Daily Mass times will change on Tuesday to 6:30pm soon. Check the bulletin and our Facebook page for the effective date. This will help the parish save money over the next year. Father Casey will communicate directly with the Daily Mass Community as we draw closer to the exact date when this will happen. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church so that different parishioners can sign up to do Adoration after mass on Friday.

- **Reports from Fundraising Committees:** no report

New Business:

- **Food Pantry:** As of this report date there have been 49 volunteers for the New Food Pantry. Several names for the new food pantry are being considered. An Open House is scheduled for July 6th. Currently the 1st date of operation is Jul 13th. This is a collaboration of St. John Paul II, Ascension and St. Martha, in our Region. Food will also be donated by the parishes of St. Raphael and Ascension and this pantry is additionally relying on picked up food from Dare to Care.
- **Boosters:** Kristie Thorpe has agreed to meet with Father to discuss re-invigorating the Boosters. An Ad hoc committee is planned to be created so that the parish can have athletics lead to a faith and create a new sports ministry. Father has asked several parishioners to become the athletics director but has not had success. A core team will be created to talk about a future.
- **Town Hall:** The Town Hall meeting will be held on Thursday May 30th from 6:30 to 7:30 in the Community Center. Jim Sinette and Kathy Huber have been helping Father organize this event. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend. Some of the subjects Father wants to share with the parish are:
 1. School
 2. Food Pantry
 3. Athletics
 4. Retreats / Lenten Missions

5. Boosters

Any questions from parishioners are to be submitted in writing and prior to the start of the Town Hall.

- **Cutting Parish Expenses:**

1. The daily (weekday) mass schedule will change. This will save the parish money because visiting priests will not need to be used. Father has shared with the Daily Mass attendees that at the end of May, the Monday Daily mass will end. There will be a Tuesday evening mass and Adoration beginning in June. There will be a morning mass on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
2. Darlene Hoard has decided to retire later in May.
3. The hiring of a part time Business Manager is being considered for the next fiscal year budget. This potential new position might be called a Director of Mission Advancement responsible for fund raising, branding, marketing, evangelizing, and working together to increase the number of students at St. JP II Academy.

- **Discipleship Model for Men and Women of St. JP II – Update:**

1. There will be a meeting for the Holy Men of John Paul II Parish on April 25th.
2. The Holy Women of the Parish will continue to work with the Walking with Purpose Program.

- **Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:** A question was asked about perhaps changing the process by which the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist obtain the Eucharist that are to be taken to the Homebound. Father advised that the Sacristan assist the Extraordinary Ministers in obtaining Hosts from the Tabernacle.

- **Quick review of committee reports:**

1. The Social Concerns Committee is getting no response from St. Vincent DePaul – Steve Hartung. Rob will follow up with Steve.
2. The Parish Super Raffle results were discussed.
3. A new Respect for Life Chairman is needed.
4. The Parish Life replacement within the Parish Council needs to be filled.
5. There was a discussion of the Parish Council Rotation. Four members will be rolling off of the Council (Rob Tichy, Dan Amlung, Terry Becker and Elaine Kennedy) as well as the School Board Liaison will roll off. A youth representative is also needed.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 8:01 pm with a prayer. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 22nd at 6:30 in the Parish Life Center.

Respectfully submitted by Terry Becker