

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Immaculate Conception Church

Mattoon, IL – February 21, 2023

In attendance: Fr. John, Carla Will, Jan Wetzel, June Kriesel, Henry Unkraut, David Skocy, Rosa Olvera, Zoraida Irizarry, Pam Wright

Absent: Cheryl Smith, Denise Cooling, Hallie Niemerg, Chris Logue, Deacon Gene, Todd Farris, Ella Farris, Garic Lawrence, Dick Considine, Sheila Record

Opening Prayer: Father John

January 2023 Minutes Approved.

Becoming Eucharistic People – Parish Council members to read remainder of book and prepare for discussion at April meeting.

Gathering Space – Father John led discussion on having a “Gathering Space” in church that is separate from “Worship Space.”

Hospitality

Social Committee/June Kriesel

- Paint & Sip was a fun evening for all who attended.
- Chili & Soup Supper Cook-Off in the Parish Center was a fun and relaxing time with lots of good food.
- Alex McCullough, who will be ordained a deacon at the Cathedral on May 26th, will preach at all weekend Masses May 27th & 28th. Social Committee will host a reception.

CCW (Council of Catholic Women)/Note from Julie Robinson

- ICCCW meeting was on Tuesday, February 7th in the Lower Level. Fourteen ladies attended the Valentine-themed luncheon. Nancy Dole accepted the Secretary position.
- Assisted at the Anointing of the Sick luncheon on February 10th with a light luncheon after Mass with 40 in attendance. The lunch was in conjunction with Golden Hearts.
- Next Mattoon Deanery CCW meeting will be Thursday, March 9th, at Our Sorrowful Mother’s Ministry in Vandalia. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend. The day consists of Mass, lunch, meeting, and games. Julie with the Parish Van will provide a ride to Vandalia.
- CCW Lenten Retreat scheduled for March 28th & 29th at the Villa Maria in Springfield.
- Scholarship applications for Outstanding Diocesan Catholic Female High School Senior are available in the Rectory.

- Next ICCCW is Tuesday, May 2nd at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center.
- Diocesan CCW 94th Annual Convention is Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at Sacred Heart Griffin West Campus with Mass at St. Agnes Church, Springfield.

Prayer

Spanish Language/Rosa Olvera

- Friday, February 24th, is the Fifth Anniversary of the Hispanic Prayer Group at Immaculate Conception Parish. 6:00 PM celebration in the Parish Center.
- Cinco de Mayo in Parish Center from 9 AM – 2 PM on Sunday, May 7th.
- Spanish Pentecost Vigil will be Saturday, May 27th from 5-9 PM with small reception in Lower Level.

Formation

Inquiry Class/Fr John

- Three young men in their early 20's are attending the Inquiry Class.
- The DelRossi family are attending class and preparing their children for baptism.

PSR/Family of Faith/Carla Will

- Family of Faith welcomed the Brandon and DelRossi families in February and expect to welcome the Garza family in March.
- Family of Faith participated in Burning of Palms on Sunday, February 19th.

Adult Education Offerings/Carla Will

- "Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John" – 9:30 AM, Thursdays in the Parish Center.
- "Matthew: The King & His Kingdom" – Thursday evening class with Father John at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center. 24-week series that will break for summer and resume classes in the fall.
 - The 4th Thursday of each month, this group will have an opportunity to participate in a work of service by volunteering at the Mattoon Community Food Center.
 - Pam Wright shared that she, her family, and friends have been volunteering at the Food Pantry for years. It is a very enjoyable experience, and she encourages parents to bring their children and volunteer together.

Cana Night

- Saturday, January 21, 2023, "Couples Paint & Sip Evening" was fun for all who participated. Thank you to the Social Committee for their hospitality and cleanup and to the Knights for hosting a cash bar.

IC High School Youth Group

- Sunday, February 26th, HSYG will travel to Springfield to visit a few historical sights and visit the Cathedral for prayer.
- High School Graduation Mass scheduled for 10:30 AM, Sunday, May 21st.
- “To the Eucharist through St. Joseph” presentation with Father John on Sunday, March 12th at 4 PM in the Parish Center. Chili Supper fundraiser for the HSYG Mission Trip to Auxier, KY, will begin at 5 PM.

Service

Knights of Columbus/Fr. John

- Blood Drive on Sunday, February 19th, from 9 AM – 1 PM in the Parish Center was a great success. Father is very pleased with our continued partnership with Impact Life.

St. Mary House / Father John

- House was full again as of Monday, February 20th.
- Young mother moved in with 3-year-old child. They join:
 - Rachel and her 4-year-old daughter. Daughter now attends Franklin Pre-K.
 - Gina and her 14-year-old daughter and 10-year-old son. Gina is starting a new job at Carriage Crossing in Arcola.
- Father John is very pleased with how compatible the families are in the house.
- The first guest of the house, Jillian, was promoted to shift-manager at County Market and has since moved into her own apartment.
- July 30, 2023, St. Mary House Breakfast fundraiser in the Parish Center from 9 AM to 1 PM.

Other Business

Lightning Rods/Henry Unkraut

- Lightning rods – waiting for good weather and for the 150-foot man lift required for the lightning rods.
- Greg Fleck, Diocesan Director of Property, Buildings and Cemeteries recently conducted an exterior audit of the buildings.

Diocesan Year of the Eucharist Traveling Monstrance

- Immaculate Conception was honored to have the Traveling Monstrance here for our 24 Hour First-Friday Adoration on February 3rd & 4th.

Stations of the Cross

- Parish Council members will lead the Stations on Friday, March 31st.
- Rosary at 6:30 PM, Stations at 7:00 PM.

Next Meeting: April 18th, 2023, @ 6:30 PM in Parish Center.

Prayer Assignment: June Kriesel