

# Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

## Immaculate Conception Church

Mattoon, IL – November 21, 2023

**In attendance:** Fr. John, Deacon Gene, Carla Will, Joann Curtis, Sheila Record, David Skocy, June Kriesel, Kristen Watson, Megan Salmela

**Absent:** Garic Lawrence, Henry Unkraut, Rosa Olvera, John Watson

August 2023 Minutes Approved.

- Pastoral Council members who attended the Eucharistic Congress were very pleased with the event and said it was well worth the effort to attend.
- The Cemetery Walk, hosted by Chris Suerdieck, was very well attended and very educational.

### Hospitality

#### Social Committee/June Kriesel

- November 11<sup>th</sup>, Fall Potluck had 30 in attendance. Social Committee pleased with the turnout. Catered meal with fried chicken and roast beef.
- Appetizers to be served after the 4 PM, January 6<sup>th</sup> Mass for Epiphany. Breakfast casseroles after the 8 AM & 10:30 AM, January 7<sup>th</sup> Masses. Cookies with crowns to be served after all Masses.
- A Candlemas “Couples Evening” will be planned by the Social Committee for Friday evening, February 2, 2024. Meal will be catered. Family of Faith parents are the target audience, but everyone is invited. \$25/couple. Daycare will be available in the school.

#### CCW (Council of Catholic Women)/Sheila Record

- Good crowd for both the light lunch following the 10:30 AM “Anointing of the Sick Mass,” on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the light supper following the 5:30 PM “All Souls Mass,” November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- “Galentine’s Happy Hour” for all ladies of the Parish is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, from 4-6 PM. Drinks, appetizers, and a chance to visit.

### Prayer

- Thanksgiving Day Mass, 8 AM, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Collection for St. Vincent de Paul.
- Feast of the Immaculate Conception:
  - 5:30 PM, Vigil Mass, Thursday, December 7th.
  - 7:00 AM at IC and 12:10 PM at St. C., Friday December 8<sup>th</sup>
- Our Lady of Guadalupe, 5:30 AM Las Mannitas, 7:00 AM Mass, December 12<sup>th</sup>.
- La Posada, 11 AM – 2:00 PM, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

- Advent Penance Service, 2:00 PM, December 17<sup>th</sup>
- 4 PM & Midnight Christmas Eve Masses, 8 AM Christmas Day
- Solemnity of Mary, 4 PM New Years Eve, 8 AM New Years Day

## Formation

### Inquiry Class/Fr John

- The ongoing Inquiry Class has 6 attending regularly. Using the Symbolon DVD series.

### PSR/Family of Faith/Carla Will

- Family of Faith resumed September 10<sup>th</sup>. 28 families registered.
- Eleven students are currently receiving Sacramental Prep from Mrs. Watson. Our next Confirmation and First Communion Mass at the Cathedral is 11 AM, Saturday, September 7, 2024. A Parish Celebration will occur the following day, Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at the 8 AM Mass at IC, Mattoon.

### Adult Education Offerings/Carla Will

- “Matthew: The King & His Kingdom” – Thursday evening class with Father John at 6:30 PM, will finish in December.
- Winter 2024: “Hebrews: The New and Eternal Covenant” – 9:30 AM, beginning Thursday, January 4, 2024.
- Winter/Spring 2024: “Pillar I: The Creed” – 6:30 PM, beginning Thursday, January 4, 2024.
- Lent 2024: “OREMUS: A Guide to Catholic Prayer” – 9:30 AM, Thursday mornings.
- Fall 2024: “Pillar II: The Sacraments” – 6:30 PM, Thursday evenings.

## Service

### St. Vincent DePaul/Joann Curtis

- Funds less than \$2,000.
- Thanksgiving Collection is for St. V.
- Planning to serve 30-50 people with Christmas Baskets this year on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Approximately \$50/basket.
- St. Vincent Trivia Night was cancelled due to conflict with Newman Night. New fundraising ideas are being discussed.
- Next meeting, 6:30 PM, December 20th, in the KC Clubhouse.

### Fourth Commandment Project/Father John

- Cheryl Smith has visited with and conducted interviews with a number of senior members of the parish, which offers a unique perspective of our parish history.

- Gerry Protz recommended as someone to be interviewed.
- LIFT building is available as a resource for the Fourth Commandment Project.

### Knights of Columbus/Father John

- Blood Drive on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Although it is preferred to make a reservation to donate blood, walk-ins are welcome and easily accommodated.

### St. Mary House /Father John

- Three mothers and three children are living in the house at this time. One child is developmentally disabled and a student at Hawthorne School. This child lives in the house with his mother and grandmother.
- Coles County House of Hospitality Soup Supper, 3:00 – 7:00 PM, Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> in the IC Parish Center. This fundraiser is to support all the Catholic Worker Houses.
- Please save any Christmas Gifts you would like to regift for the auction.
- Main raffle items are BOOS cutting board, Cuisinart Grill, La-Z-Boy Recliner, and John Deere riding jeep for kids.

### Other Business/Father John

- Church:
  - Deconstructing of scaffolding is in the works.
  - Most of the arches are done.
  - Painting is going quickly.
  - Cleaning to begin soon.
  - Approval from the Fire Commissioner is required.
  - The elevator is connected to the fire alarm.

### Diocesan Wide Centennial Campaign/Father John

- Campaign to begin one year from now, five years in length.
- This is a plan over the next 5 years to have every parish initiate our own capital campaign. The purpose of this campaign is to eliminate any parish debt (we have none), work on deferred maintenance (ongoing), building demolition or construction (none anticipated), and endowing aspects of parish mission.
- Parish assessment from the Finance Council and the Building and Grounds group.
- The Diocesan Campaign Goal is 150% of annual expenses, ours is \$900,000. Our projects would not equal that amount.
  - Plaza issues with drainage above the door.
  - Chimney area is deteriorating – tuckpointing is a continual issue.

- The Southwest “Mass Times” sign from the 1980’s is deteriorating. It will be knocked down and replaced with a steel sign with lighting.
- Replace carpeting in Parish Center.
- Correct termite damage from previous issues in the Parish Center.
- Calvary Cemetery – families used to maintain the gravestones of their family members, but now many are neglected. After discussion with Finance Council, Father is looking for an Endowment for the Parish Cemetery. The Diocese has a Community Endowment. Every year the cemetery loses \$6,000 to \$9,000/year.

**Next Meeting:** February 20th, 2024, @ 6:30 PM in Parish Center.

Prayer Assignment: June Kriesel