

# Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

## Immaculate Conception Church

Mattoon, IL – November 19, 2024

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

**Absent:** Garic Lawrence, John Watson

August 2024 Minutes Approved.

### Hospitality

#### Social Committee/June Kriesel

- Parish Mission with Fr. Emmerich:
  - June thanked all Parish Groups that provided refreshments for the Mission. A special thank you to Tim and Mary Knepple for taking care of all four mornings of the Mission.
  - Father John expressed his thanks to Father Emmerich and mentioned he is a wonderful house guest.

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

- The CCW Funeral Luncheon Ministry is their largest endeavor and is successful due to the help of many volunteers.
- CCW hosted a luncheon on Tuesday, October 22, following the Anointing of the Sick Mass and served fifty.
- The Mattoon Deanery meeting, November 6<sup>th</sup>, was held here at IC with Mass at 8 AM, Deanery Meeting and then lunch.
- “Galentine’s Day” will be offered in February, please see future bulletins for details. In place of traditional meetings, quarterly gatherings on Wednesday evenings is the new format.

### Prayer

- Penance Service, Sunday, December 15, 2 PM.
- “The Collects” Lenten Mission with Brother Stanley Rother Wagner on Friday through Monday, February 28 – March 3, 2025. Learn what the Season of Lent is all about.

### Formation

#### Inquiry Class Report/Deacon Gene

- Inquiry Class resumed Tuesday, September 24, three participants.

### Spanish Language/Rosa Olvera and Zoraida Irizarry

- The traditional Novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be prayed. Different people will host the image of Our Lady each day of the Novena, beginning December 3<sup>rd</sup>. People will visit the home of the host and pray the Novena together.
- The hill of the Virgin will be built in the church on Sunday, December 8, following the 10:30 AM Mass. It will be removed following the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe will be held in Church on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>
  - 5:30 AM Mananitas (songs to the Virgin)
  - 6:30 AM The Holy Rosary
  - 7:00 AM The Holy Mass
  - 8:00 AM Tamales & Champurrado (hot chocolate)
- Las Posadas (inns or shelter) is a religious festival commemorating the search of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem for a safe refuge where Mary could give birth to baby Jesus. Traditionally, the celebration would take place each of 9 nights, Dec 16-24. We will celebrate one evening in the Lower Level of Church on Sunday, December 22, from 4:00-6:00 PM.

### Family of Faith/Carla Will

- Thirteen students are preparing for the Sacraments with Mrs. Watson. Our next Mass at the Cathedral for Confirmation and First Communion is at 11 AM, Saturday, September 6, 2025. A Parish Celebration will occur the following day, Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, following the 8 AM Mass at IC, Mattoon. Many thanks to our Sacrament Catechist, Mrs. Kristen Watson.
- Family of Faith gained 3 families in November. We continue to perform Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy during Family Solidarity.
- March 15<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM – Noon, “Lenten Rice Meals for the Mission” is a youth volunteer opportunity to support our sister parish in Venezuela. More details to come.

### Nazareth Catholic Academy/Carla Will

- The Academy meets on Tuesdays in the Family of Faith Center with 8 families involved. They begin with 8:30 AM Mass.

### Adult Education Offerings/Carla Will

#### **Thursday Mornings, 9:30 AM:**

Rejoice: Advent Meditations with Mary - Advent 2024 (1 episode)

Pillar II: The Sacraments - Winter 2025

True Reformers: Saints of the Catholic Reformation - Lent 2025

#### **Thursday Evenings, 6:30 PM:**

\*Epic: A Journey Through Church History - Fall 2024 & Winter 2025

\*Father John welcomes all to join EPIC as it continues through the Winter Semester.

## **Service**

### St. Vincent DePaul/Joann Curtis

- Seven members remain active.
- Continue to meet with clients twice per month.
- Funds are down to \$1,000-2,000 but are not concerned due to the generosity given to the Thanksgiving Collection.
- Some funds have been reserved for the Christmas Basket Ministry.

### Knights of Columbus/Father John

- KC Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- KC Blood Drive on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

### St. Mary House /Father John

- Newsletter to be in the bulletin this weekend. Thank you to Carl Walworth for the newsletter.
- Group of 3 St. Mary Board members will meet with potential houseguests.
- St. Mary House is always looking for more "On the House" volunteers.

### Projects/Henry Unkraut

- Parish Center bathrooms will be updated with 6 new stools purchased from Home Depot. Labor will be volunteered.
- Church Bell system is down again, hoping to be repaired for Christmas.

### Diocesan Wide Centennial Campaign/Father John

- We have received some very generous pledges.
- Calvary Cemetery
  - Columbarium – Sanders Concrete. Effingham Monument.
  - All existing streets to be oiled and chipped in Spring of 2025.
  - With the location of the columbarium, grass will need to be sowed between units and alfalfa planted (instead of corn) in the field for protection of columbarium.

**Next Meeting:** February 18, 2025 @ 6:30 PM. **Prayer Assignment:** Dave Skocy