

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, September 4, 2024

Welcome

The meeting was opened by Rachel Wandishin. PPC Chairman. Becki Kaman, AoB Parish Renewal Specialist would be attending the meeting via zoom, at the request of Fr. John, to continue assisting the PPC with the creation of a new Parish Pastoral Plan (PPP).

Opening Prayer

Cathy Nusbaum announced that the PPC ministry photo would be taken at the next PPC meeting on November 6, 2024.

Parish Pastoral Plan Discussion

Becki Kaman led the discussion to follow up on the parish mission and vision statements for the PPP.

- a) Vision - Where we want to be (future)
- b) Mission – Why we exist (present)
- c) Goals – Broad, long-term aims that define accomplishment of the mission

Steps (with suggested timeline) to re-work the plan were outlined:

- Finalize Ministry Mapping (October): where do ministries fit into the categories of the core principles, identify gaps as it relates to parish goals
- Complete Ministry Assessment for each ministry (December): worksheet provided to be completed for each ministry
- Analyze parish and census data to identify priorities (Jan/Feb): who are we serving?
- Build strategies to address priorities (Feb/March)

Faith Formation (FF) and Sacramental Preparation update

Daniel Rosa and AnnaMarie Link presented the goals for the year. There are 144 formation students registered.

Young Adult:

- provide an opportunity for young families to encounter Christ
- encourage every disciple to receive the Eucharist in a state of grace
- Focus of curriculum will be Sacred Scripture

Kindergarten – 8th grade:

- At-home and in person formation will continue, with the goal of phasing out the official at-home program.
- The direction of the FF program is to provide opportunities for encountering Christ
- The Sacrament of Confession will be offered on Monday Evenings during classes for parents and students
- Sunday morning bible study will be offered for parents while students attend classes

Fr. John added:

SJCC has a parish subscription to <https://formed.org/> an under-utilized resource for our parish. Parishioners need only to enter the zip code of SJCC (21784) and input their own name and email address to access a plethora of valuable content.

SJCC has also subscribed to **Magnifikid!** A missalette designed for children. Published monthly, each packet contains booklets for each Sunday in the month. Mass responses are color-coded to encourage and teach children to participate. A glossary of terms is included for the readings.

A new promotional video was created to encourage parents to attend Bearing the Beams of Love, which begins again on September 9th.

Terry Morse (Corporator) raised concerns about phasing out the at-home FF program, stating that the extensive research done by the PPC regarding the best practices for formation programs, clearly revealed that home-based formation was the most effective and lasting technique. Discussion followed with clarification that included in our FF goals, is the effort to better support parents with opportunities for their own catechesis, access to resources, and through participation in our parish community. Solutions to overcome the obstacles to effective home based faith formation, namely parental willingness, and adequate knowledge of Catholic Teachings, will be a focus and priority of the program. The message to parents through adult formation will be “form yourself to form your children”.

To that end, Fr. John is in discussion with the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus on creating a commission for Family Life and Human Dignity, to include marriage, parenting, and broaden the respect life commission to include the dignity of all human life.

John LeMaster has joined the team as a Youth Ministry Assistant

The cost of FF and Sacramental Prep is \$100 for middle school students, \$50 for high school students, and \$150 for Confirmation prep students. Financial assistance available upon request.

Rachel Wandishin continued with the topic of balancing the budget and stewardship. Discussion of forming a stewardship committee to include members of the finance committee, PPC, and parishioners ensued.

Mission Council

Tony Gioio, MC Chairman reported:

- Vacation Bible School was a tremendous success
- MC was able to distribute countless Saint's Medals and Rosaries through their presence at the local Fireman's Carnival.
- A challenge has been convening all of the MC members due to personal schedules
- Tony is working toward the creation of Mission Teams, grouping ministries into smaller subsets with leaders to provide oversight and continuity.

Pastor's Report

- Regarding the PPP, vision statement needs to be something we can sink our teeth into; bold, motivating, and rallying. The parish IS the surrounding community. The goal is for SJCC to become the spiritual, moral, and social center of Eldersburg and Sykesville through encounters with Jesus.
- Tray Bart, a seminarian from Mount St. Mary's will be assigned to SJCC
- Regina Chaylee, representing a Home School group of @90 kids, has asked for and will be given use of the downstairs classrooms 2 days a week
- Over 100K has been raised for the roof repair
- There has been positive attendance at the Bible Study offered between masses
- **Come and Adore** will be held from October 5th to October 12th. Eucharistic Adoration will be available from 7am to 7pm including group Rosary, Angelus, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Speaker presentations will be offered in the Chamanade center on 3 evenings following the 7pm end of adoration.
- **SJCC Block Party** is September 28th. Ministries encouraged to attend and support efforts where needed

Closing Prayer

Attendance

PPC Members: Fr. John Worgul, Rachel Wandishin, Stephen Paskvich, Jane Miller, Minta Davis, Tim Brantley, and Mark Steinbrunner

MC Members: Tony Gioio, Cathy Nusbaum (beginning of meeting)

Corporators: Terry Morse

AoB, Office of Parish Renewal, Emmaus Team Members: Becki Kaman (virtual attendance for PPP portion of meeting)

Pastoral Team: Daniel Rosa, and AnnaMarie Link (FF portion of meeting)

Associate Pastor: Fr. Patrick McCain