

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING 9-21-2023**

Meeting was convened at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory.

Present – Father Joe (via Zoom), John Riordan, Matthew Lee-Own, Michael Griffin, Jorge Otero, Katie Pomroy, Adam White

Opening Prayer – John delivered the opening prayer using [A Prayer For “Renew My Church”](#) from the Archdiocese of Chicago, followed by the [Memorare](#).

Announcements –

- PPC meeting calendar was reviewed and members signed up for prayers
- Member contact list was updated with all PPC’s phone number, email and address

Minutes – Minutes from the May 2023 meeting were reviewed without objection.

Old Business –

- **Submission of PPC members picture and statement** – all PPC members personal statements and pictures were collected for publication in the Oct 1 bulletin.
- **Welcoming Events & Engagement Events** – Discussion was opened on topic of scheduling welcoming and engagement events for new parishioners and/or visitors to Assumption. It was proposed that at least one event be held before the parish year ends.
- **Special Event for couples married at Assumption and families of babies baptized at Assumption** –
 - Proposal was made to have some sort of event for couples recently married at Assumption (possibly around Valentine’s Day) to connect with the Parish and other couples
 - Idea is to have a special Mass / talk and a follow up reception for these couples
 - Currently we send 1-year anniversary cards to couples married at Assumption
 - This proposal would likely require an additional ministry be created to facilitate / manage

- **Stained glass lighting** – Discussion was opened on topic of additional illumination for the stained glass windows on the east side of the sanctuary. Sunlight coming through these windows is oftentimes obstructed due to the apartment complex on the east side of the property.
 - Suggestion was made that we attempt to incorporate *Laudato Si'* sustainability principles in the solution (e.g. solar / LED lighting)
 - Fr. Joe indicated that most all lighting currently in the Church is LED except for the spotlights on the Altar.
 - Proposal was made that the pastoral council refer the topic of additional illumination to the finance council to get cost estimates

New Business –

- **Renew My Church Update** – Fr. Joe provided an update on the progress of the Renew My Church efforts at the parish.
 - Alpha – update was provided on the status of the Alpha program and evangelization outreach efforts
 - Hospitality Sundays – Fr. Joe explained that the regularly scheduled Hospitality Sundays ended in June (2023) largely because the hosts had stepped back from this ministry; additionally, turnout was often the same small group of people.
 - Suggestion made that a team organize special events after Mass on some Sundays to engage parishioners
 - Childcare at Sunday Mass – interest was expressed in restarting childcare at the Sunday Mass (10:30 a.m.)
- **Catholic Leadership Institute** – Fr. Joe provided an overview of the survey conducted by the Archdiocese.
 - Council members are encouraged to examine the survey results and see if there are any areas they would like to discuss.

Closing Prayer - Father Joe prayed for the Holy Spirit to guide our parish as we continue to grow in our evangelization journey.