

Minutes of PPC Meeting – 02/16/2023

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. via zoom

Present – Father Joe, Paul Dufresne, David Iaccino, Jorge Otero, Rose Grieco, Katie Pomroy, Kathryn Moery, Michael Griffin, John Riordan, Ray Hufnagel, guest Beth Schuman.

Opening Prayer – Ray's prayer offering started with The Lord's Prayer, The Hail Mary, and The Glory Be. Ray then prayed a few of his favorite prayers that included the Peace Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi, a prayer for vocations to priesthood and religious life, a prayer to Our Lady of Fatima for world peace, and a prayer for those in our military. He shared with the council how his niece built a nursing home in Oklahoma and named it after St. Katharine Drexel who was canonized by Pope John Paul II, making her the second American-born saint to be canonized by the Catholic church.

Minutes - Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed without objection.

Old Business

- **Alpha discussion** - Beth gave the council an overview of Alpha as an introduction to Christianity. Its key importance is to build community through radical hospitality by sharing a special meal together followed by the Alpha film series and ending with open discussion as a way to help facilitate a sense of community. The marketing of Alpha would need to be expanded. The council also discussed a possible next level after Alpha that might include bible study or catechism to continue our Christian journey. Kathryn will be researching other options available through the Archdiocese in lieu of Alpha.
- **Beth on evangelization** - Beth will be invited again next month.
- **Welcoming new parishioners** - Kathryn informed the council on the Welcome Committee's suggestion to host a New Parishioner Sunday event to be held on May 7, 2023, in conjunction with Hospitality Sunday. We discussed emailing new parishioners followed by a phone call inviting them to the May 7th event. The Welcome Committee will meet again before the next council meeting to further discuss the logistics.

- **Lenten programs** - Father Joe encouraged the council to participate in a few of the Lenten programs and to also invite friends and family.
- **Pew updates** - The finance committee has received three bids and is now awaiting their list of jobs completed in the Chicago area by two of the bidders. They will then follow up with these parishes on their satisfaction with the end product and their overall experience with each company.

Open Forum

- Assumption's 2nd annual fish fry will be held on Friday, March 3rd. The men's group has asked for volunteers to help with setup and serving that evening.
- Deacon Kevin will join our March meeting to discuss his interaction with couples getting married at Assumption.

Closing Prayer – Father Joe prayed for guidance as we enter into unknown territory and that our hearts, minds and souls be open to what others bring to the council as we continue to grow God's Kingdom.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory.