

Minutes of PPC Meeting – 01/16/2023

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

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

Opening Prayer – Michael’s prayer offering reflected on his Irish-Catholic upbringing. The Angelus prayer was usually recited as an opening prayer and the mass ended with the Hail Holy Queen prayer. The council prayed both of these prayers together. Michael referenced a verse from the Angelus prayer “Behold the handmaid of the Lord” and how the blessed mother Mary was the chosen handmaid to the Lord.

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

Reading Assignment – The fourth chapter of *No Silver Bullets* was discussed. The chapter talked about how the church is to be a sign, instrument, and foretaste of the kingdom of God. A congregation that believes in the gospel and lives out its implications *together* as a community is the way the gospel comes to life. Author Daniel Im writes about mid-size communities consisting of groups of 20-50 people who journey together to celebrate, grow and be a blessing to those they live, work and play with, a community where you belong before you believe, and where friendships are formed.

The council has decided not to read chapter five at this time and will instead view a few of the Alpha film series to discuss at the next meeting.

Old Business

- **Renew My Church** – Beth Schuman, the evangelization lead, is currently participating in a four-week program through the archdiocese. The leadership group is working on providing parishioner names who might serve as leaders in the relaunching of the Alpha program. Kathryn suggested finding an alternate program to Alpha to help grow missionary disciples. Beth Schuman will send the council a link to view a few of the Alpha episodes to discuss at our February council meeting.
- **Statuary pamphlet** - The statuary pamphlet is ready to go to press!

- **Welcoming new parishioners** - The council has formed a welcoming committee (Kathryn, Katie, John, Dave, Rose) who will meet on January 25th to discuss better ways to personally welcome new parishioners.
- **Assumption monthly bag meals for the homeless** - Paul and Anne Dufresne will be donating bag meals for February. We discussed further funding needed to continue the ministry. We also discussed possibly preparing meals in the parish garden when the weather permits to encourage community involvement.

New Business

- **Lenten programs and upcoming events** - Father Joe encouraged the council to attend the February 2nd film viewing of *The Letter: A Message for Our Earth* in the parish hall. Assumption will also host a five-week lenten service in the parish hall with featured guests to be announced in the bulletin.

Open Forum - The council has invited Deacon Kevin, who engages with couples getting married at Assumption, and Beth Schuman, the evangelization lead, to the February meeting to give the council better insight in the evangelization process.

Closing Prayer – Father Joe prayed for the Holy Spirit to help us find our way as we continue in our evangelization journey.

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