

## St. Cletus Parish Council Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2023

**In Attendance:** Fr. Jim Benz, Rick Bates, Carol Callahan, Zeonia Christy, Lori Geisman, Valerie Heien, Jan Joeckel, Carolyn Martin, Chrissy Poulter, Jim Streit, Gwen Williams, Mary Jane Young, Deacon Mark McCarthy

**Absent:** Fr. Mark Whitman, Angie DeGooyer

Meeting was called to order shortly after 7:00 pm in the Rectory basement. The Council will continue meeting in this space until further notice. Carol Callahan opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Minutes:** Several corrections were made to the February minutes. 1<sup>st</sup> motion, Mary Jane Young, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gwen Williams. Motion passed to approve the February 2023 meeting minutes with corrections.

**Formation:** Carolyn Martin facilitated the first section of the Archdiocese's "Preparing for Mission" guidebook which focused on evangelization. The group covered the discussion questions on page 4 but did not have time for the remainder of the section. The homework is to finish the questions on page 5, to read pages 6-10, and be ready for discussion on these pages.

### Old Business

**All Things New:** The March 6 workshop was well attended with representatives from parishes throughout the deanery. Strengths included the diversity of ages who attended, a high level of sharing, the opportunity to meet new people from across the deanery, good small group discussions, and good food. Participants learned to tell their personal faith journey as one method of evangelization. Next steps include following up with topical discussions such as how to bring adult children back to practicing their Catholic faith. Fr. Wester and Tammy Chumley might be possible facilitators for future discussions.

**Greeters:** Mary Jane has been coordinating greeters. She is not putting together a schedule, but simply inviting volunteers to arrive at church, put on a greeter badge, and greet people at the door. Volunteers have covered several masses so far. Suggestions included putting a sign-up sheet with the badges and to place the badges on the table near the door for easy access. Mary Jane plans to contact RCIA and youth groups to get more volunteers.

**Ushers:** We still need someone to coordinate this ministry. Tyler, the grandson of the drummer at 11:30 mass, volunteered to hand out song sheets at that mass. Personal invitation will be the key in getting this ministry operating again. Jim volunteered to follow up on this effort.

**Youth Ministry:** Zeonia sent Fr. Benz a list of initiatives the worship pillar created which need support from our youth ministry. The strategic plan is posted on the parish website and includes all the goals. Fr. Benz shared the results of his discussion with Bob Hamer about addressing the pillar goals. The Council and the worship pillar will continue to follow up with completing the youth ministry identified goals.

### New Business

**All Ministry Meeting:** St. Cletus has roughly 45 ministries and has held annual all ministry meetings in the past. This year, we plan to hold this again by inviting a guest speaker on evangelization, dividing into ministries by pillar, and hold roundtable discussions with similarly focused ministries sharing ways to evangelize. At this meeting, we could share the guidelines that ministries should follow when representing St. Cletus as a whole.

### Pastor's Report: Fr. Benz Reporting

Fish Fries are doing very well. Parishioners are encouraged to wear name tags. The funeral for Fr. Mark's father is April 22 at 11am at St. Robert Bellarmine church. Study groups for the Living Joy book are formed and are meeting independently. The Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Study is wrapping up and won't meet again until fall. The parish picnic is planned for May, but no ride company is booked yet. Donna Pezold is coordinating rides. Colleen Paisley and Becky Williamson want to do "Welcome Retreats" and will share more about their idea as it develops. Brian Kleutenkameper volunteered to coordinate a phone calling initiative to touch base with all our current and past

parishioners. Fr. Benz will follow up with Brian. Bishop Carlson is doing our Parish Mission which begins Sunday, March 26 and runs through Wednesday, March 29. Deacon Mark will investigate recording the evening sessions for future viewing. Fr. Benz will make those available at a later date for those who cannot attend. Bishop Carlson will say a 10am mass each morning which will be live streamed except for the children's mass on Wednesday. He will give short talks after each mass which will not be recorded. Fr. Benz reminded the Council that he is retiring in June.

The meeting ended with a prayer led by Carol Callahan.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00pm in the Rectory basement. April prayer will be led by Rick Bates.

Respectfully submitted by  
Carol Callahan