

St. Edith Pastoral Council Meeting
December 12, 2023
7 p.m. Meeting - Fireside Room

Minutes

Attendance: Deb Beaman, Renee Billotto, John Bodnar, Denise Brady, John Brady, Donna DelFavero, Elisabeth Johnston, Jill Josey, Steve Kraska, Fr. Jim McNulty, Mark Tuttle

Absent: Joe Bertrand, Megan Wolschleger

- I. Opening Prayer - Renee
- II. Review and Approve Minutes - Minutes approved as submitted.
- III. Chairman's Comments - Mark's Parish Council article will be in the bulletin this weekend. Also, he expressed his thanks for working with such an energizing Parish Council and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- IV. Fr. Jim's Comments
 - A. 4th Sunday of Advent Mass Schedule and Christmas Mass Schedule: The only Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent at St. Edith will be at 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 23 (i.e. There will be no Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. on December 24 for the 4th Sunday of Advent). The Christmas Mass Schedule will include 4 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and midnight on Christmas Eve and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Christmas Day. Fr. Jim will explain the upcoming Mass schedules in this weekend's bulletin. If council members hear any feedback on the Mass schedules, please share it with Fr. Jim. The Christmas season preparations are on schedule too.
 - B. Evangelization: Deacon Don will provide a written report each month for Evangelization. No formal committee will exist for Evangelization, but rather the Parish Council will be called upon to brainstorm in this area. Currently, Evangelization at St. Edith includes hospitality (i.e. organizing fellowship following parish activities; going well), young adults (i.e. speed dating, activities for newly engaged and married couples), 50+ group, and baptism/baptism families (i.e. families come for baptism, but would like to keep them engaged following baptism). It was suggested to connect MOPS with Deacon Don and baptism prep because it could be good for the new moms to learn about/connect with MOPS during baptism prep. For example, perhaps a representative from MOPS could introduce MOPS and explain what it is at the beginning of a baptism prep class. Fr. Jim will follow-up with Deacon Don on this idea and Jill will follow-up with MOPS for the correct MOPS contact to connect with Deacon Don. Fr. Jim

encouraged the group to keep thinking about ways to evangelize and council members expressed support for ideas such as the co-ed softball team and expansion of the welcoming committee to include CYO teams (i.e. CYO teams available at the beginning of Mass to greet and welcome people as they arrived at Mass).

- C. Euchre Tournament: Fr. Jim shared that Deacon Don is looking for someone with experience organizing large euchre tournaments to organize the tournament at St. Edith. If anyone has suggestions, please share their names with Deacon Don.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Christian Service: Bob Modes is catering the funeral lunches and the feedback has been very positive. He also provides lunch for the St. Edith students to purchase. The annual outreach program was successful and St. Edith parish members are extremely generous (i.e. 300 children received gifts and gift cards were collected for Franciscan ministries). Also, the box near Toni Sheffield's office was very helpful for collecting outreach items.
- B. Education: A third grade catechist is needed for Sunday class as well as substitute catechists. No prior experience is needed, just enthusiasm! You must be 18 to be a catechist.
- C. Finance: St. Edith is close to reaching its CSA goal. Parish members can still donate to the CSA goal and whatever is received over the goal, will come back to St. Edith. John Brady shared the following from Karen Roosen regarding donations:

If you want the money to remain as a donation to St. Edith - the best is to contribute to the CSA (not subject to the AOD assessment and it does not factor into calculating the CSA target for the following year). If you make a donation to the parish for Christmas - it is not subject to the AOD assessment but does factor into the CSA target for the following year. The CSA target is 13% of church offertory and Christmas Collections. If you want to contribute to the Almsgiving that is distributed to different charities each quarter it is subject to the AOD assessment but does not factor into the CSA target.

Heather's piano bench is in disrepair. The Finance Council has enough money to purchase a new one. John Brady asked that this be taken up by the Worship Commission.

- D. Seniors: No report; Joe Bertand absent.

- E. Worship: No report as the commission will meet tomorrow. Donna did comment that the Sip and Shop event was fantastic! It was suggested that phonetic spellings be provided for names read during the prayers of the faithful. The parish office staff does provide phonetic spellings for names that appear difficult, but they cannot provide phonetic spellings for all names.
- F. Evangelization: See above in Fr. Jim's Comments.
- G. Social Worker: Patti Kelly provided a written report. She is doing a great job! Patti is the resource/ "go to person" for a variety of things. For example, if a St. Edith School class was interested in doing an adopt-a-family project for Christmas, she would have the contacts.

VI. Old Business - No Old Business to report.

VII. New Business - The process for what happens when new parish members sign-up was discussed because John Bodnar was made aware of a new family that recently joined the parish and their first contact following registration was receiving their giving envelopes. If a new member signs up at church, they receive a welcome packet. If a new member signs up online, they are asked to come to the Parish Office to receive their welcome packet. New parish members are also supposed to receive a phone call, welcoming them to the parish. It was suggested to send text messages and emails to communicate with new members too.

VIII. January 9, 2024 Meeting - Opening and Closing Prayer Volunteer

- A. Opening prayer: Jill
- B. Closing prayer: Deb

Note: The January 9 meeting will be a regular meeting. At the February meeting, the Parish Council will brainstorm the parish goals.

IX. Closing Prayer - Megan (Mark read her prayer in her absence.)

Submitted by: Elisabeth Johnston