

**Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish Council Meeting**  
**6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

**Opening Prayer** – Fr. Louis Nelen

**Call to Order** – Chandra Prasad, President

**Roll Call** – Darlene Kliethermes

**Present:** Fr. Louis Nelen, Richard Aubuchon, Keri Austin, Gina Bailey, Aaron Hildreth, Melanie Lanigan, Chandra Prasad and Morgan Trimble

**Absent:** Jon Browning, Ann Kampeter

**Minutes of December 13, 2022 Meeting:** – (Reviewed/approved by Parish Council on December 27, 2022 via electronic review/vote).

**Pastor's Report** – Fr. Louis Nelen

**Cathedral Renovation**

- As of now we are pretty confident we are getting back into the undercroft the last weekend in February. We will be using the temporary doors for now and will replace them when the new fire rated doors when they come in.
- The elevator can't be commissioned until the upstairs is done. We are waiting for some materials to come in for the air handlers. The units will work but not at full efficiency until materials are here and installed. We are happy with the work they have done.
- Precast Terazzo for stairwells should be done this week. That will take care of the three-ways of egress for the city to be happy. So I think we're fine.
- The new kitchen equipment is installed and working.
- It is up to the Bishop as to when he wants to schedule the Dedication. It is a question of whether we wait to do it when you know it will never be interrupted or do it when the opportunity presents itself and don't worry about when it might get interrupted.
- We are aiming for a completion date for the upstairs of March 3, 2023. There are still many pieces that need to come together.
- It will be nice not to have to take chairs down every weekend.

**Cathedral School Report –by Gina Bailey - See written report.**

- There was discussion around whether school families are coming here or going to other churches. It is agreed that some families just can't deal with the small children in the gym. But for the most part we believe that the families will come back when the church is finished.
- Also discussion on what if we have fewer Masses. It would decrease the burden on the priests. The Masses are usually more lively if we have more people in attendance. It also takes some burden off the laity as far as how many people we need to have enough help for each Mass. We would have to coordinate with the other parishes in town so we offer Masses at times most convenient to all. But at some point, we will probably have to consider changes just because we don't have enough priests.
- Discussion around HVAC project for school during the summer.

**Youth Report - See written report.**

**Faith Formation Report – See written report.**

**Stewardship Committee Report – See written report.**

**Finance Report – No Report**

**Old Business –**

- Parish Mission Statement. Tabled.

**New Business –**

- Pastoral letter dated December 9, 2022.
- Discussion regarding topics included in the letter. How to address some of the problems that are expected from our parishioners as a result of the new stewardship plan: giving, our faith, Mass attendance, Active Parishioner Status, qualifications and benefits for attending our school, school discipline, volunteering.
- Following the lengthy discussion on the above. We are really dealing with 59 families for one letter and 126 for the other.
- We are hoping that a big chunk of these can be taken care of with just some frank discussions.

- We have to send letters to school and non-school families.
- Important to know consequences and privileges of active parishioner status.
- We are going to need to move some kids to tuition status if families don't want to participate in the new Stewardship model.
- Discussion on what the parish pays to Helias for kids in our parish. Not fair that the parish pay the subsidy to Helias if the family is not actively participating and tithing.
- Discussion on trying to have a more personal touch with some families and make them feel welcome.
- Discussion on the shortfall from pledges that are made and not paid. We were \$180,000 short from unpaid pledges. We realize that only 20% of the people bothered to fill out a pledge. There are a limited number of families that are carrying 35 to 45% of our income. This is not a comfortable position, especially with the size of our school.
- We need clarification on what to do with the families that pledge and then don't pay.
- Discussion on how we get people involved and agree it is with using the four pillars of Stewardship. There needs to be a balance. Sometimes we have to be tougher and show the expectations and the consequences.
- Rental Contract: Some discussion then taken under review for further conversation.

Closing prayer – Fr. Nelen

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 6:00 P.M.in the Parish Office

Respectfully submitted: Darlene Kliethermes



Chandra Prasad, President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2/21/23