**Meeting Minutes-St. John the Baptist Parish Pastoral Council - August 26, 2024**

Present:  Father Alan Wierzba (Pastor), Nancy Hackel (Evangelization Coordinator), Bonnie Nenstiel, Patty Myszka, Jack Knetter, Elizabeth King

Excused:  Dave Bielmeier

1. The meeting opened with a prayer led by Father Alan

2. Recitation of the parish mission statement by all.

3. Minutes from April 29, 2024, were approved. Patty motioned for the approval and Bonnie seconded.  The motion passed.

4. Seminarian Alex Radtke leaving on Wednesday morning for St. Paul Seminary. Deacon Mathew Szymanski ordination to priesthood June 28,2025, Mass of Thanksgiving June 29th  tentatively at 10:30am at St. Johns, sit down lunch following downstairs. Fr. suggested that he will need a corner for Blessing people and possibly a table reserved for his parents if they are able to attend. Nancy suggested that the PCCW be asked to serve the lunch, and the parish would buy the meat.

5. St. John’s School

 A. Summer School - Went well and at least broke even

 B. 2024-2025 Enrollment - Currently at 68 students

 C. Hot Lunch - Making an offer to an applicant. If accepted, they will need Food Safety training. They already have Safe Environment training.

6. 125th Celebration Planning - We had a good turnout for pictures. There will be a committee putting the directory together. We discussed having something for people to commemorate the 125th anniversary. Some suggestions were a Christmas ornament or a window vinyl. Nancy will contact Amanda Albrecht and Alyssa Hardwrath for artwork suggestions.

7. Repairs - Gutters were cleaned out to improve the flow of water. The Rectory basement is still getting a little wet but not as bad. Still working on the water mitigation in the school basement. Modifications were made to the school office. We received a memorial for a cooling table to be used in the dining hall.

8. Parish Finance - Currently projected to be $140,000.00 short. Some suggestions to offset this shortfall are to promote more online giving, work with Catholic United Financing to promote giving through estate planning and funeral planning. Fr. will be putting together a committee to evaluate the effectiveness of our current fund-raising activities and come up with some new ideas. We are currently tracking income vs. expense and reporting it weekly in the bulletin. Nancy suggested that we highlight the weeks our income exceeds our expenses to frame the issue in a more positive light. A motion was made by Nancy seconded by Patti and passed by the committee to increase the price of the 5-day offering of candles from $3 to $4 and the 6 hour votive candles from $0.25 to $0.50 to cover the rising cost of the candles.

9. Parish Pastoral Activities

A. Youth Group - Jaun Matinez resigned as coordinator. We are looking for volunteers to meet with high school students once a month, middle school students once a month and 3rd through 5th graders once a month.

B. Grief Support Group - Offered in spring and fall. No one is currently signed up to attend.

C. Technology - Chet Severson family installed a fiber optic cable connecting all 3 buildings enabling the parish to have 1 internet connection. The new phone system is working great and much easier to use than the old one. Live stream Masses are appreciated and being watched by those who cannot attend in person.

D. Evangelization - There will be a CCD teacher in service on Wednesday of this week. Children’s Liturgy will resume on Sunday 9-15-24. We completed the HAPP program and may begin it again in winter. Bible Study will resume in advent.

E. Steam Show - Went well overall. It was nice to be able to take credit cards.

F. Parish Homebound Ministry - Dorrie continues to visit homebound parishioners.

10. What are you hearing - Nancy read a letter from a new parishioner. This family shared that they felt welcomed by St. John’s and the community. We appreciated that feedback.

Next Meeting Date: November 4, 2024 6:00 pm

Meeting adjourned with a blessing by Fr.