

St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church
Pastoral Council Minutes
April 23, 2024; Rectory 6:00p.m.

Members Present: Fr. John, Karen Chandler - Facilitator, Joe Naizer - Secretary, Sheryl Wikins, Kevin Stuart (on phone), Rochelle Hall-Schwarz, Homero Gonzalez

Members absent: Eric Butler, Ryan Collett

Opening Prayer: Fr. John

Meeting called to order: Karen Chandler

New Business:

Bridging gaps to connect generations: A number of parishioners have commented that young children are active and vocal during Mass and other services which may be a distraction.

Each council member offered insight for the concerns of the parishioners, the families of young children and the ministry of the Parish.

Some notable comments were:

- Are the concerns a result of personal frustration?
- Families are entitled to attend services with their young children.
- Requiring families with young children to use the Angels Room or sit in a designated area is a form of ostracizing them.
- Individuals who have a serious concern could seat themselves in another part of the church.
- Making an announcement before services could be interpreted as a form of intimidation.
- Following Jesus' example, we are to be inviting and inclusive to all.

After hearing all comments, it was agreed that a general communication to the Parish would not be appropriate but that each complaint would be discerned with the individual by listening to their concerns, inviting them to place themselves in the young families shoes, considering the teachings of Jesus to love our neighbor.

Selection of new Pastoral Council Members: Discernment event to be scheduled after Easter, Installation of new members in July 2024. Council members are requested to submit prospects to Fr. John with "[PC Nominee]" in the subject line. Bulletin and pulpit announcements will be provided on the Sundays of April 28, May 5 & May 12.

Fr. John will send a letter to individuals submitted as nominees.

Fall Festival: All proceeds from the 2024 Fall Festival will benefit St. Mary's School. In years past, the proceeds were split between the church and school.

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Old Business:

Welcoming Committee: To be discussed at next meeting.

Future Discussion -

Master Plan – To be considered after June 2024.

Next meeting – June 11, 2024, 6:00 pm, at the home of Homero Gonzalez

Respectfully Submitted, Joe Naizer, Secretary

“Mission of St. Mary’s is to radiate our love and enthusiasm for Christ and His Church, building from our foundation of faith, inspiring our parish family to continue to grow in His discipleship.”