

SAINT ISAAC JOGUES PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 4, 2014
SAINT ISAAC JOGUES PARISH OFFICES

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Present: Father Darrell, Deacon Bill Kolarik, Deacon Dominic, Deacon Jim, D. Mahalak, L. Judd, G. Krause, L. Berlin, R. DeKeyzer, J. Beckman, S. Brune

Absent: J. Hogan

Meeting was opened with a prayer from Father Darrell at 7:05 PM

November minutes were approved through email. Beginning with the December meeting minutes I will send a copy electronically to Cindy at the parish office as well as making a hard copy available for Father Darrell. One additional correction to November minutes was brought to the attention of the council that being the Christmas concert time is 4:00 not 3:00.

Changing Lives Together: No report for this meeting

Pastoral Update: Father reported that the individual who had shown interest in Education Commission will have an answer to him soon as to whether he will accept the post. Sister Nancy has also made contact with other interested parties and beginning in January these individuals will be attending meetings. Committee designees will be put on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting, report to the council and then be excused and meeting will continue with council members.

After the first of the year Father and Sr. Catherine Marie will begin work on the “fill the church” program. Father also reported that he will be in church every Thursday between 11:40-12:40 to hear confessions from school children.

Finance: Steve reported that at the last meeting a representative from the Archdiocese had two presentations geared specifically for finance councils titled Financial Policies and Procedures for Parish Organizations and Finance Council – Consulting with the Pastor on Parish Resources. Both were seen as very helpful resources. Some old business was covered as well, primarily delinquent tuition balances that have been forwarded to be handled.

Worship: Lou Anne reported that the new hymnals for St. Angela were discussed and that ushers will retain same officers until timeline is finalized. There was discussion about the gardens and fence as well as the new communion guideline for the homebound. Concerns were voiced that Easter services will be at St. Isaac Jogues although it had been previously said that there would be a rotation of holiday masses and that it would be at St. Angela this year, however the masses will be at St. Isaac Jogues with the primary reasons being it’s a larger facility and with the timing just prior to sacraments for the school children it is felt to be the right choice. Per the Archdiocese, celebrations, (high holy days, Lenten and Advent services etc.) should be at the parish church. Weddings and funerals were also mentioned and while both sites remain open should a parishioner request that they be married or there is a death and it is asked that the funeral be at St. Angela that request will most certainly be honored.

Christian Service: Lou Anne spoke with Joan Richards and a representative will attend January meeting.

Vicariate: Jim reported that Fr. Eduardo Montemayor attended as a guest speaker to discuss a

new program called “Crossing the Goals” that will be aimed specifically at male parishioners. The program consists of 153 video presentations that will span over three years. There will be a training session March 17, 2015 at St. Philomena and it is recommended that 2-3 men from each parish attend. The pilot program will begin during Lent with the official kickoff in the fall of 2015. Jim also reported that St. Paul on the Lake parish holds meetings the first three Thursdays of the month from 7:00-8:00 AM for men from parishes throughout the vicariate. There was discussion as well about the youth and young adult leadership programs forming. Currently the age groups that were discussed were 13-18 and 19-35. The thought was that perhaps it would be better to think about having the groups be 18-25 and 25-35 which would be a better alignment.

Old Business: The bulletin and masthead were discussed and the new changes will be implemented after the first of the year. It was suggested that an article be published in the bulletin explaining the concept of the new masthead.

Father handed out copies of the count information from the both sites for the weekends 10/18-19 and 10/25-26 from 2013 and 2014. Both sites have realized an approximate 10% reduction in attendance. Father also passed out a profit/loss statement for the council to look over.

The timeline was next on the agenda with much discussion as to how it needs to be structured, what should/needs to be included in it and how we should pursue this area. It is agreed that many factors need to be analyzed in order to create a comprehensive timeline. Financials and count numbers are important and need to be included. Having this data available will show the parishioners what keeping two sites open costs while dealing with a debt reduction plan. More importantly, we need to reflect on stewardship and what that means in a merged parish. Once the timeline has been finalized (early 2015) by the council, Fr. Darrell will relay this to the parishioners. It is also suggested that we look at reducing the masses at St. Angela in June of 2015. Parishioners would be surveyed on which mass they would prefer to keep.

The matter of building accessibility for senior parishioners at St. Isaac Jogues was discussed and agreed that this needs to be a number one priority. Father will talk with Ken and begin the process of getting financial information about the installation of an elevator.

The agreement among the council members, Fr. Darrell, Deacon Dominic and Deacon Jim was that we will take some time to reflect and pray over these very difficult decisions that we are facing and at our January meeting we will make a decision and from that point Father Darrell will begin the steps that are required to begin the closing process.

New Business: Lou Anne made a request to Father Darrell that our music director Alexandra come to St. Angela on occasion, especially when the full choir is singing. It was also discussed that there was no introduction in the bulletin for IrekBak and that it should be done even though it is somewhat late.

The new church envelopes will be corrected with the next printing to read St. Isaac Jogues Parish not St. Isaac Jogues Church.

Lou Anne addressed the council regarding an email inquiry from a St. Angela parishioner about

budgetary expectations from SAM members and are they being met. The parishioner feels that it is the “fault” of the pastor that this information is not being addressed. Gerri will email this individual and let them know that Father will be contacting them after Christmas to discuss this matter. There were two other issues that were brought to Lou Anne and it was agreed that our minutes will speak to these concerns.

Lou Anne inquired about who will be ordering flowers for St. Angela, Father indicated that Sr. Nancy has handled this area.

Roy spoke to the council about the need for ordering more prayer cards for the New Pentecost prayer and also that it needs to be made known that gluten free hosts are available. Father is working out how to organize this at mass with the least amount of confusion.

Our next meeting will be January 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the St. Isaac Jogues Parish offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Mahalak