

**Saint Raphael Pastoral Council**  
**Meeting Notes from May 24, 2022**

Lou Servideo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All Council members were in attendance except Maria Tomasetti and read together Al May's opening prayer, which stressed the Council's need to remember "the primary work of our parish: The holiness of all its members." April's meeting notes were accepted as sent.

**Father John's Comments:**

***Brother Matthew is now a Deacon!***

***Ongoing water problem at Saint Ann Parish Center (update):*** The window wall on the east side of the building has been caulked and power washed in hopes of stemming the water that has come in between the auditorium and the main school building. Father encouraged members to keep an eye on the situation and let him know if they see that water (which seems to be wind-driven) has come in.

***Altar Servers:*** After an extended "Covid time" with but one altar server, we have both new and returning servers. Allyza, Arthur and Austin Moral will now be senior servers, wearing cassocks and surplices. Julian Ekeh has returned; Bryce Tuba and two Putnam boys are currently in training. Michael Deveny, our faithful senior server, will graduate from Fairfield Prep in June (Fr. John, Fairfield Prep, Class of 1972, has been invited to celebrate the Baccalaureate Mass.) Michael will attend Catholic University in Washington, D.C. in the fall. We hope to see him when he comes home to visit.

**Committee Reports:**

**Prayer and Worship:** Ann Eden: **1)** The joyous Easter season comes to a close on June 5, the Feast of Pentecost. This Thursday is Ascension Thursday. Holy Day Masses: 8 a.m. at Saint Gabriel's, 7 p.m. at Saint Ann's. **2)** It's an appropriate time to extend heartfelt thanks to those who work hard to make our two churches reflect the beauty of each liturgical season: Rose Marie Marmolejo and her "cast of thousands" and Mary Lee Frisbie, Jo-Anne Neeley and Trish Black, key people for decorating at Christmas and Easter; Sharon Lebowitz and Lisa D'Avignon, who faithfully change the side shrine draperies at Saint Ann's to the colors of each season; our linen ladies, Barb Spadaro and Angela Gartz, with assistance from Cindy Sissick, who do a splendid job caring for the altar linens; and the ladies who make our Baptismal bibs, Lynn Perry and the members of the Blue Mantle ministry and Rose Cox and Jo-Anne Neeley.

**Christian/Lifelong Faith Formation:** Pat Pavlucik, reporting for Maria Tomasetti: **1)** Beginning to plan for 2022/2023 GIFT and Sacramental programs. GIFT theme will be Catholic Social Teaching. Mailing to go out in August. **2)** 12 children received First Communion in May. 13 children will receive First Communion in June. **3)** Graduation Celebration – Mass and Reception – planned for Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m. Mass. Families signing up to participate. **4)** Summer Camp, *Jerusalem Marketplace*, for children 4-11, set for week of July 25<sup>th</sup>. Recruiting volunteers (adults and youth ages 12 and older). Volunteer kickoff meeting June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Volunteers also needed for planning, setup and decorations on 5 or 6 evenings during weeks of July 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. **5)** We have interest in an Adult Confirmation program, planned to begin in August. One young woman has expressed interest in RCIA, program will begin in October.

**Social Justice (Human Concerns):** Al May: **1)** Trying to schedule a committee meeting for June 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. to discuss items pertaining to the rest of the year. **2).** CONECT Assembly meeting tonight to discuss priorities for next year. [Al has not mastered bilocation, so he is with us tonight.] Although no one attended the parish virtual house meeting, some concerns were expressed, in particular health care and services, issues raised by Saint Raphael parishioners and others. Those issues will be part of CONECT's agenda for the year ahead. **3)** Fr. John asked how the brothers from Afghanistan are doing. The older brother is working; the younger boy, still struggling somewhat with English, is completing his junior year at Hamden High School.

**Parish Life:** Lou Servideo (Task Force):**1)** The team (Kathleen, Frank, Scott and Lou, with assistance from Manfred) came in ahead of its scheduled Memorial Day goal for striping the lines in the parking lots at both churches. [Work on the far parking lot at Saint Ann's not yet started.] **2)** Lou and Kathleen Buchanan will function as "kitchen inspectors" when groups are using the Parish Center kitchen. They will also set up a

regular schedule for grease trap maintenance. **3)** Next up for the Task Force: work on the railings at both churches; check out the damaged wall near the sacristy-side entrance to Saint Ann Church. (Social Gathering) **1)** Committee close to a final plan for Movie Night. It will be a computer presentation, projected on the same screen used for Archbishop's Annual Appeal presentations at Saint Ann's. **6)** Flyers have gone out re: 3-day, 2-night fall trip to Sight and Sound in Lancaster, PA. \$325 per person, double occupancy, 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts included. Need commitment from 50 people to book the trip. **7)** Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> bus trip to a Yankees/Mets game at Yankee Stadium in the works. 7:05 p.m. start time; seating in Section 232A on the right field line, 40 people. **8)** Parish family picnic scheduled for Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Cathy Coda has had an initial meeting with volunteers and will "cast a wider net" as she recruits more help. There will be prayer and a period of brief silence to mark the significance of the day.

**Lou's Lessons:** **1)** Before leaving the "oval office," [Lou is the outgoing president of the Pastoral Council.] Lou stressed the importance of the *one parish/two churches* concept all of us have worked hard to establish and maintain. **2)** He thanked Ann Eden (with a gift!) for her work as Council secretary.

**Open Forum:** **1)** Rich Wheeling said it had been "a pleasure to be part of the Pastoral Council." [Due to the pressures of a busy schedule, Rich resigned from the Council prior to the last year of his term.] **2)** Lou reported that Manfred Mohring has tested positive for Covid. All Task Force members Manfred had worked with on the striping project were notified and all tested negative for Covid. **3)** At Tom Zawislinski's suggestion, the Coffee And scheduled for the weekend of July 9/10 will be in support of Enfield's Little Sisters of the Poor. The May event for Boys and Girls Village raised \$500, and we received a note sincere thanks from BGV. Fr. John noted that the Coffee Ands supporting causes have been very well received. **4)** Kathleen Buchanan suggested that the parish needs a plan for the maintenance of our buildings, perhaps someone experienced in dealing with cinder block/brick buildings. Fr. John will reach out to the Archdiocesan Department of Property and Assets for recommendations/suggestions. He has had experience with the department, which had helped the parish after the break-ins and vandalism at the former Saint Gabriel School. In terms of repairs/maintenance we need to be proactive rather than reactive.

**Selection of New Members:** 9 parishioners had agreed to stand as candidates for the six Pastoral Council openings. All of them met the qualifications and had signed the "Willingness to Serve" form that is required. Their names, on folded slips of paper, had been placed in a handsome green container. Lou asked Deacon George to pull the names. The first four chosen by lot would serve three year terms (for the 4 outgoing members whose terms had expired). An additional two names would be pulled, for the two outgoing members who had resigned with one year left on their terms.

The new Pastoral Council members were chosen in this order: Wally Hauck, Terri Deveny, John Adams, John Kirkham, Andrew Jorge and Tom Jadogzinski. The other candidates, MaryJo Downs, Toni Gomes and Pat Pritchard, will be backups, available to serve if necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Ann Eden  
Ascension Thursday  
May 26, 2022