

Saint Raphael Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

May 22, 2023, 7:00 PM St. Ann's Office

In attendance: Rev. John B.; Kathleen B.; John K.; Wally H.; Rose Marie M.; Paula D.; Tom J.; Al M.; Terri D., Maria T.; Tom Z.

Guest in attendance: Leo Dorsey

Absent: Deacon George S.; Andrew J.; Cathy C.; John A.

Opening:

- Opening prayer by Tom Z.
- April meeting notes were accepted.

Father John's Comments:

- Father Emanuel from Fort Portal in Uganda has been visiting and serving Mass at both churches.
- Father Patrick is also visiting from Fort Portal in Uganda and is looking for a rest because he is leader of 42 churches.
- Father will be visiting Vietnam on August 9th for the ordination of three priests. Father has been a mentor to them.
- Mission Cooperative is held every year in the Archdiocese. This year it will be held on August 5th and 6th.

Nominating Committee

- There were 8 nominations for the new Council term starting in September. 4 decided not to participate. The four selected are: Leo Dorsey, Frank Lacerenza, Joyce Marlow' and Cathy Coda will stay on and starts a new 3-year term.
- Much gratitude for those whose terms are ending this year: Tom Jagodzinski, Kathleen Buchanan, and Andrew Jorge. Thank you for your service.

Standing Committee Reports:

Saint Raphael Parish Prayer and Worship Committee Report from Ann Eden:

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dates noted with * are tentative, awaiting verification.

- Celebrate Saint Raphael: Friday, September 29 Continuing our recent tradition of "Breakfast to Go" following the Mass for the Feast of the Archangels, this year at Saint Ann Church.
- Healing Mass w/Anointing of the Sick: *Sunday, October 1, 2:00 p.m. at Saint Ann's. Date seems most appropriate, closest Sunday to the Feast of Saint Raphael.
- International Rosary: Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 p.m. at Saint Gabriel Church. Rose Cox has booked the date w/Monica. We will recite Pope Saint John Paul II's Rosary for Peace. Reception to follow in the Saint Gabriel Hall.
- Mass of Remembrance: *Sunday, November 5, 2:00 p.m. at Saint Ann Church Sunday closest to All Souls' Day.

- Advent: Begins Sunday, December 3. Advent booklet for parishioners. Other suggestions will be a topic for discussion at a future P&W meeting.
- Lenten Speaker/Retreat for 2024: March 10-12 (Peter DeMarco is coordinating this event) Sunday afternoon at Saint Gabriel Church. Monday and Tuesday evenings at Saint Ann Church

Social Justice/Human Concerns:

- Parish Garden: The garden project is proceeding. Much work still needs to be done. Please volunteer to help. Contact Wally Hauck at wally@wallyhauck.com for more information.
- It was announced that Wally Hauck will become the chair of the committee starting on September 25, 2023.
- The committee discussed various ideas for an online education program, similar to the one we sponsored in the past on human trafficking using ZOOM. Ideas were varied and included some that might be more appropriate for another subcommittees, such as Faith Formation or Prayer and Worship to explore.
- In a discussion after the meeting, Outgoing Chair Al May and Incoming Chair Wally Hauck agreed that it might make sense to devote a substantial portion of the next meeting on June 19th to a discussion of the subcommittee's charge, which, in part, is to "work for changes in the structures of society which are oppressive" and "to support parishioners already involved in service, advocacy, justice education, and empowerment of people."

Social Gathering - Rose Marie Marmolejo <rmarmolejo@snet.net>

The Annual Homefront Pork Roast Fundraiser was held on May 21 at St. Gabriel's Church Hall.

- We began with an appetizer hour. Fr. John gave the opening prayer and blessing of the Homefront project and the food. Over 100 participants had a great time. 5 of these were unpaid invited guests. Much gratitude was expressed to Rose Marie and her team of wonderful volunteers.
- Rose Marie and her team were able to feed over 100 people with a little more than a \$500 investment. Marie Simonetti and Carrie Nocerino did a wonderful job with the raffle which raised over \$400. A complete report on results will be sent to Fr. John and the committee by May 24.
- John Marmolejo provided an update on the Homefront project scope and plan. The project is scheduled for September 16th. 16 have already volunteered to participate in the project. The Knights of Columbus donated \$600 to the project.
- The bake sale will raise money for Homefront also and will be held May 26-27.

Parish Life – Cathy Coda

- The Lancaster bus trip to see Sight and Sound production of Moses is scheduled for Aug 14-16 and has 51 signed up. The money is due June 7th.
- The bus trip to see Subway Series (Mets vs. Yankees) is cancelled due to low response. Please contact Catherine Coda <cathy.coda@att.net> for more information.
- **Coffee And:** The posted dates through the end of the year are as follows: June 24, July 8, August 12, September 9, Oct 14, Nov 11, and Dec 9

Faith Formation – Maria Tomasetti

- 32 children received their First Communion at our regular weekend Masses on May 6/7 and May 20/21. Three additional children/teens will be receiving their First Communion in June. Children receiving First Communion with the entire community is always a more meaningful

celebration for all. Having this on Sunday makes it a community celebration and sends the message that it may be special for the children, and it is what we do every Sunday to encourage future celebrations on Sunday.

- Three adults received the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 9 at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. We plan to offer a second Adult Confirmation program, beginning in late August.
- Our GIFT Pentecost Celebration/Activity Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6--any time between 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm. There will be information and activities for people of all ages--as well as pizza. This is open to anyone in our parish community. We're requesting RSVP's for planning purposes.
- Scheduled teen Confirmation classes will continue through late June. There will also be a few summer make-up classes for several Confirmation candidates.
- We are continuing to receive RSVP's for our Graduate Recognition Celebration on Sunday, June 4, at the 9:30 am Mass followed by brunch in the Parish Center Hall. We invite Grade 8, high school and college/post-secondary school graduates and their family and friends to join us.
- In late May and June, we will increase advertising to promote our Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light! Summer Camp for children ages 4 through 10/11. We will also be doing additional targeted mailings and emails. The camp is scheduled for July 24 through July 28. Volunteers--adults and teens ages 12 and older--have been contacting me to sign up to help, and there will be a volunteer kick-off in mid to late June. July will be focused on camp planning, set-up and decorations--especially the weeks of July 10 and July 17. We welcome new volunteers. Even one or two days would be a tremendous help!
- It's time to start planning and preparation for our 2023/2024 faith formation program--GIFT and our Sacramental programs. Our GIFT theme will focus on the Sacraments. The monthly GIFT program is open to people of all ages and not limited to families with children and teens.

Open Forum:

- The signs in front of the church will have an additional sign added to show hours of masses. John K. will design options for Fr. John. to approve.

Our Next meeting will be September 25 at 7PM at St. Gabriel Hall. All are invited.