

**Minutes of the 509th Meeting
Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council
Conference Room at the Parish Office**

April 11, 2024

Members Present: Fr. John Thomas, Lauren Calhoun, LaWanna Brand, Dirk Dooper, Katie Pagan, Russell Vaughn

Members Absent: David Danhauer, John Wright

Parish Team: Fr. Shibu

I. Call to Order

Lauren Calhoun, Vice-Chair, opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

II. Prayer

Fr. John M. Thomas led the PPC in prayer.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as written for the March 14, 2024, meeting.

IV. Liaison Reports – Lauren Calhoun

A. Parish Finance Committee – (Fr. John M. Thomas on behalf of David Danhauer)

Fr. John Thomas stated that Andrew Nunez will present the upcoming 2024-2025 budget at the May meeting. At the June meeting he will ask the PPC to approve the budget. Fr. John reported we are \$70,000. ahead in collections.

B. Liturgy and Worship – Lauren Calhoun

Lauren Calhoun stated the Easter Services were well attended. Fr. John Thomas reported the extended hours for Lenten Confessions and the St. Stephen Cathedral Communal Reconciliation Service were also well attended on Palm Sunday at 2:00 pm.

C. Social Concerns and Outreach – Dirk Dooper

No report.

D. Education and Formation/Spiritual Enrichment – LaWanna Brand

LaWanna Brand stated that Rick Rhodes in his report announced the Wednesday morning Lenten Companion series went well with about 25 people. Nine in RCIA came into the Church at the Easter Vigil. The other eight will come into the Church sometime in July. Those eight will continue with RCIA on Wednesday evenings in May and June as part of the Welcome Home series which begins May 1, 2024. The Acts 2:42 Small Group Program is set to continue for a second year. We will again be participating in the Summer Feeding Program. The next Neighborhood Walk is May 19, 2024, to promote the Summer Feeding Program.

Cheryl Powell in her report announced 16 First Communicants are preparing to receive Jesus on April 28, 2024. Faith Formation will have an end of the year party on April 21, 2024, celebrating with an ice cream social with a short lesson and craft. Several members of the Children's Event Leadership Team have signed up to help plan specific events for the year. Vacation Bible School registration opened April 13 and ends May 20, 2024. Volunteers of all ages are encouraged to participate in this event. The Eggstravagant Easter Egg Hunt went well. A lot of families attended, and the weather was beautiful. Jesus on the Go is a way to keep our Church family connected as we enter the summer travel season. Take Jesus on the Go with you as you travel...or whatever you do this summer. The program will be presented to the parish on May 18-19, 2024, with instructions.

E. Youth – Katie Pagan

Katie Pagan presented Karina Romero's report. The Graduate Sunday has been reformatted and the seniors will be invited to the 11:00 am Mass and have a cookout afterwards for the seniors and their families. Planning is in the works with St. Pius X for an at home middle school mission week. Our on-campus project will be cleaning up the Prayer Garden. They are looking for people in the parish community who love to garden to come and work alongside our youth. Sign ups for the Gasper Prayer Team will be available soon. Youth Small groups will be wrapping up the summer this month. She will soon have another Tropical Smoothie meeting for our high school girls. Once a semester Katrina and one of her volunteers go to Tropical Smoothie and buy one for each girl and catch up with what is going on in their lives.

The next whole group Young Adult Social will be a Star Wars event for May 4, 2024, in the back yard of the Youth House. Our Young Adult small groups are doing well and growing. Karina has been performing "one on one" check in with our Young Adults. Karina is exploring the possibility of forming a Leadership Team to help with the planning and putting on social events for their community.

F. Buildings and Grounds – Russell Vaughn

Russell Vaughn announced the Spring Clean Up Day would be Saturday, April 13, 2024. Fr. John Thomas stated that Eddie McFarland, Bob Stone, and a rep from Hartz Construction took the 2002 Facility Study and looked at all the Parish Campus Buildings. There should be a report at the next meeting.

G. Community and Family Enrichment – Fr. John Thomas (on behalf of John Wright)

No report.

V. New Business

Fr. John Thomas presented samples that will be used for the display of Eucharistic Miracles in History for the weekend of Corpus Christi. There will be extended Confessions that weekend. It is also Hospitality weekend.

VI. Unfinished Business

None

VII. Action Items

Review with Andrew Nunez the 2024-2025 Fiscal Budget.

VIII. Pastor's Report

Fr. John Thomas announced Blessed Sacrament has been in the process of renovation and it is almost finished. Chairs have been purchased and a new tile floor will be laid the first week of May. The Blessed Sacrament debt of \$100,000. with the diocese has been retired.

IX. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Ordinations, etc.

None

X. Closing Prayer – Fr. Shibu

Fr. Shibu led the PPC in a closing prayer.

XI. Adjourn

The next meeting date has been changed Thursday, May 2, 2024. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Ebelhar