

**Minutes of the 514th Meeting
Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council
Conference Room at the Parish Office**

October 3, 2024

Members Present: Fr. John Thomas, Dirk Dooper, David Danhauer, Gary Gant, Joe Harris, Suzanne Padgett, Katie Pagan

Members Absent: Daniel Best, Russell Vaughn

Parish Team: Fr. Shibu, Donna Murphy

I. Call to Order

David Danhauer opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

II. Prayer

Donna Murphy led the PPC in prayer.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as written for the September 12, 2024, meeting.

IV. Liaison Reports – David Danhauer

A. Parish Finance Committee – David Danhauer

David Danhauer reported the committee has not met since the last PPC meeting.

B. Liturgy and Worship – Suzanne Padgett

Suzanne Padgett announced the training of new lectors, Eucharistic ministers, servers, and hospitality ministers have taken place. After successfully recruiting for choir members there are now 22 members. Fr. John Thomas added that the staff is discussing having a Lenten Mission.

C. Social Concerns and Outreach – Joe Harris

Joe Harris stated he attended the September 19, 2024, Social Concerns Committee meeting. He provided a copy of the minutes from the meeting. He also handed out a list of ministries provided by Alex Reid. Except for the Backpack Ministry the ministries are experiencing volunteer shortages. The committee discussed the following four strategies for groups to increase their volunteer base: 1. have a volunteer fair, 2. use the Backpack Ministry expertise to grow a volunteer base, 3. have individuals reach out to others, 4. institute a policy that families with Parish supported children in school be asked to involve themselves in the ministry of their choice as a condition for ongoing support. Other ideas included using One Call to plug for a ministry, use as service for Confirmation, focus on different areas in the bulletin, and discuss service ministries during marriage prep. The need for PPC members to identify themselves and wear a name badge was discussed. It was decided the members need to send a picture and biography to Crissy for placement in the bulletin.

D. Education and Formation/Spiritual Enrichment – David Danhauer (on behalf of Daniel Best)

David Danhauer announced the Pray & Play will meet on October 17, 2024, with the group transitioning to having a Study for the Fall. Faith Formation, First Sacraments and Children's Liturgy of the Word are going well. The Family Bible Story and the Adventure and the Family Cooking Night with Fr. John were both fun events. Karina, Rick, and Cheryl had "Serve Saturday" on September 26, 2024. They prepared sandwiches and took food to areas in town with a homeless population. The next one is October 26, 2024, where they will be boxing meals for Cross Catholic at Brescia. First Friday Adoration is October 4, 2024. Praise & Worship Holy Hour with Reconciliation is October 13, 2024, at 4:00 pm. Bunco in September was a fun, social event. Rick, Karina, and Cheryl plan to schedule presentations of photos of all that has happened in our ministries and events. Cheryl would love to upgrade the CLW room.

E. Youth – Katie Pagan

Katie Pagan reported there were 27 youth at small groups on Sunday, September 29, 2024. They have started registration for ODYC which is in Hopkinsville this November. Karina has partnered with Habit for Humanity and each of the small groups will have the opportunity to do different projects. Our high school girls will be painting walls on Oct 20, 2024. Five young women have signed up to participate in the Fiat Project which is a discernment program for female vocations. The young adults have enjoyed social nights at Brew Bridge and are having a bonfire night at the youth house.

F. Buildings and Grounds – Fr. John Thomas (on behalf of Russell Vaughn)

No report.

G. Community and Family Enrichment – Gary Gant

Gary Gant presented a report that he received from Alex Reid. The report included the following information: 1. Ministry training and dates, 2. Materials being prepared for 2025 Prayer, Service, Generosity Stewardship campaign which will take place the second week of November, 3. Annual Parish Giving Tree preparations spearheaded by Audrey Bowlds, 4. Potential Ministry Fair to drive interest in various ministries.

V. New Business

Dirk Dooper announced that he, Fr. John Thomas, Eddie McFarland, Bob Stone met and decided the facility study is an incomplete report. There is no ranking or evaluation of projects. Eddy McFarland will talk with Ben Hartz and RBS and hopefully will have something new in November. When David Danhauer inquired about a new Community Center, Fr. John replied when we have more information we will decide on our projects. We will need a fundraising mechanism.

VI. Unfinished Business

Finalize facility report.

VII. Action Items

Move forward on the Facility Study and Report, announce dates for new member receptions, send pictures and bios to Crissy

VIII. Pastor's Report

Fr. John Thomas asked members to pray for the Powell family. Eddy McFarland has offered church tours and will do one for the PPC. Fr. Shibu thanked everyone for praying for his family after his mother's death. Fr. talked about his mother and their funeral customs. He is going back to India October 21, 2024.

IX. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Ordinations, etc.

Happy October 6th Birthday to Joe Harris. Happy October 22 Wedding Anniversary to David and Karen Danhauer.

X. Closing Prayer

Fr. John Thomas led the PPC in a closing prayer.

XI. Adjourn

The next meeting is Thursday, November 14, 2024. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Ebelhar