

St. Francis Xavier
Pastoral Council Meeting
November 11, 2021

Members Present: Fr. Dale Cieslik, Louis Leppert, Steve Tillman, Nancy Collette, Ed Scott, Keith Meyer, Jim Ernspiker, Roy Greenwell, Alexandra Rogers,

Members Absent: Chris Williams, Joey Followay, Matthew O'Connor, Patricia Mattingly

Others Present: Mitchell Elder

Meeting opened with prayer.

Mitchell Elder presented the council with an update on the construction of the new Parish Activity Center. The masonry walls are complete, and construction is on schedule and currently still within budget. The outside metal panels and roofing materials have been delivered.

New volleyball equipment has been donated for the PAC through parishioners Rob and Debbie Williams.

Parish Hall renovations will begin in January with the stairwell and lift. It should take approximately 30 days.

Mitchell confirmed that the target date is still March, 2022 for the grand opening of the new PAC.

Chairman Lou Leppert directed a review of the October minutes. Jim Ernspiker moved the minutes to be approved as written; Ed Scott seconded; all in favor.

Pastor's Report

Father Dale reported that Thanksgiving Day Mass is November 25 at 10:00 am. The Parish Office will be closed on November 26, however there will still be morning mass at 8:30 am and Eucharistic Devotion until noon on that day.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation, is Wednesday, December 8, at 7:00 pm with RE students and teachers, as well as the community.

The Feast Day of St Francis Xavier is on Friday, December 3 at 8:30 am mass. This is the beginning of the 175th Jubilee of the parish's founding.

Bullitt East High School Choir, under the direction of our music director, Carrie Gary, will perform their Christmas concert at St. Francis Xavier on December 14 at 7:00 pm.

Father announced the Holy Days Mass Schedule, as follows:

Dec. 24 - No 8:30 am mass

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve - mass at 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day - mass at 10:00 am
Dec. 26 - Holy Family Feast at 9:00 am and 11:00 am
Dec. 28 - Holy Innocents at 8:30 am
Dec. 31 - Mary, Mother of God at 4:00 pm
Jan. 1 - New Year's Day - Epiphany at 5:00 pm
Jan. 2 - Epiphany at 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Father Dale's other upcoming work includes:

Nov. 18-24 - Trip with Bellarmine University Basketball
Nov. 30 at 1:00 pm - Hosting Priests' Support Group

Old Business

Father Dale reported that there have been no new changes to COVID safety guidelines this month.

The December Holiday Party for Parish Staff and Parish Council Members will be held on December 4th, following the 5 pm mass, in the Parish Hall.

There will be no December Parish Council Meeting.

Ed Scott reported on Expanding Our Embrace. So far, approximately \$80,000 has been collected to furnish the needs of the Parish Activity Center and renovated Parish Hall. The goal is to raise \$160,000 for this project.

There will be a Donor Tree called the *Tree of Life* with engraved leaves people can purchase in memory of a loved one placed in the PAC to help fundraise. The cost is \$200 for a leaf, with the goal of a net profit of \$32,000. There will be an article in the December edition of the Crossroads Messenger about the tree.

New Business

Father Dale reported that the Parish Mission last week was successful. He thanked the speaker, Gary Montgomery, for his message.

Committee Reports

Administration

Chris Williams sent in a report that the back parking lot pole lights have been converted to LED. On November 29, Bobby Grace and Richard Brangers will begin replacing the bulbs and fixtures above the church altar. They will also dust and clean cobwebs from the ceilings while we have access to the lift.

He also reported that there will be a hospitality training on Sunday, December 5 from 12-3 pm in the Parish Hall.

Formation

Roy Greenwell reported that there are 8 adults and 3 children in our RCIA group currently. We have had 4 baptisms, 1 couple in preparation for marriage, and 3 new Eucharistic Ministers. There is a Women's Retreat being planned for February.

Parish Life

Nancy Collette reported that our Outreach Ministry is collecting food for Christmas baskets. They also hosted a Santa Shop, sent \$200 to the Stewards of Appalachia and donated to our St. Francis High School Youth Group. They will be donating gift cards to our community schools' Youth Service Centers to be put in holiday baskets for community families in need.

She also reported that the Women's Club had 28 vendors at the Glimmer of Christmas Bazaar and is planning a Christmas Dinner for December 6.

Stewardship

Ed Scott reported earlier on the Expanding our Embrace campaign and the *Tree of Life*.

Worship

No report.

Father Dale announced that our Catholic Services Appeal goal is \$22,000, and we have collected \$16,000 at this time. However, \$11,000 of that amount was donated by only four households. Father Dale feels he should make another push for our parish to donate and do its part for the Archdiocese.

The meeting ended in prayer.

The next Pastoral Council meeting is January 4, 2022 at 6:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by Dana Steinmetz, Pastoral Council Secretary