

**Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (BTC) Parish Council Meeting Minutes
October 11th, 2021**

Attendees: Bob Brandon, Bernadette Dalton, Miriam Gutting, Fr. Haley, Lisa Lonero, Deacon Al Love, Kathy Magrecki, Jane Orlando, Lorenzo Robinson, Christine Stoverink, Corrin Thornton, Eileen Weiskopf

Excused Absence: Jeanne Baer, Margaret Toney

Corrin Thornton, Chair, officiated and meeting opened at 7:03 PM

Opening Prayer: Father Haley

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved as written. Bob Brandon motioned to accept minutes and Jane Orlando seconded.

New Business

Financial Update – First of EANS funding payment has been received. It is a couple of months turnaround. Do not have Festival report, but it is a positive income.

School Updates – 159 enrollment K to 8; 29 in Pre-K. Lost student since parents felt child was not ready. Mrs. Dougherty, Principal, is close to hiring someone for the Pre-school Teacher Assistant/Librarian/Office Assistant position. Mrs. Lori Stumpf to retire at the end of this month. An Art teacher will be available thru an outside contract.

Strategic Pastoral Planning – Follow-up

Updates from Archdiocese Strategic Pastoral Planning Day – Jane Orlando and Bernadette Dalton provided update from the Saturday, October 9th meeting. Beginning stages of a strategic pastoral planning to examine all parishes, schools, ministries and agencies. Goals are to make “All Things New”, to enhance our evangelization, and to secure a vibrant future. Catholic population declining. Approximately 5,000 leaving and 1,000 baptisms, which means a lot of few marriages. Mass attendance down. Those who are in the pews are there and have returned and that’s it. A new model of Church needed from what was in the 1800s, 1900s. Need to bring Gospel message to others in new model. 1) Lead this process with prayer, 2) have a shared goal of evangelization (different in each community), and 3) discern infrastructure (plan to collectively process as Diocese). There is a vibrant Catholic presence in STL. Great diversity who needs support and ministry. Youth and young adults needed. Evangelization efforts fallen short. Too parochial and don’t work together. Big divide between city and suburbs. Number of schools exceeds needs of other ministries. Schools educate people but not life-long. Priests and parishes not supported. More focus by laity. More encouragement and empathy for priests. Cannot keep doing the same. Recent past plans fall short. Ill and conflict between priests and laity. Bold and forward-looking. 2-year process. 1st year is dedicated to planning, socialization and data. 2nd year is dedicated to having a model, feedback and final decisions. Implementation Pentecost Sunday 2023. Priests and pastors to lead process. On 1/25/2022 a website will go live, resources available, and to launch disciple maker index (survey) online and paper forms. Results to be shared with parish, pastor and committee. By Summer 2022, information to be sent back to Archdiocese. Fall 2022, 400 listening sessions will be conducted, 2 in each parish. Winter 2022, Archbishop will make decision and 5/28/2023, Archbishop will make announcement. Archdiocese is totally accountable. Fr. Haley shared his thoughts from the Friday meeting

attended. We need to think beyond a building. Church is the people. Archdiocese wants to keep a Catholic presence in our community.

Parishes in our Deanery are: All Souls (Overland), Holy Name of Jesus, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Presentation, Sacred Heart, St. Angela Merici, St. Ann, St. Ferdinand, St. Jude, St. Martin de Porres, St. Norbert, St. Rita, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, and St. Sabina.

Discussed request for more Bible study and prayer, meditation. We need someone to lead, and it is hard to recruit someone.

There will be an Advent prayer service offered at BTC.

Administration duties should be shared more from the priests.

Parish Planning – After discussion, all council members are open to the Archdiocese process and led by the Holy Spirit!

Upcoming Events

- Wine Tasting w/PRP Wine – 10/17 – School Family Organization (SFO) is hosting a wine tasting event on Sunday, October 17th. Wine novices and wine enthusiasts alike will all have a great time sampling and learning about different wines from around the world. All are invited! Contact Jaime Weyrauch with questions at jaimeweyrauch@yahoo.com.
- Community Clean-up Day – Saturday, 10/23 from 9 to 11 AM. Teams will be dispatched to neighbor areas within the community to pick up trash. Trash bags will be provided, please bring your own gloves and tools. Hot dogs, chips, and water/soda will be provided at the conclusion of the event back on the parish campus.
- Trunk r Treat – 10/30

Old Business

Fall Festival – Price of the Chicken dinner options could be increased by \$5.00. Several folks stated the fried chicken was really, really good! Color Run had approximately 20 children participating. 3-day event was a good thing. It was much easier to enjoy versus a 1-day event. One could easily volunteer and still be able to enjoy the fun. SFO hosted event Friday night should have offered more food options rather than just pizza and snacks, since cost was \$40 per person. There was plenty of alcohol options, but not enough real food. It was suggested to follow and implement more of an alcohol / food ratio. After some discussion, it was decided in order to set a precedent, the 50/50 raffle money raised should not be credited to SFO, but to parish as a whole. BBQ was to be available from 3 to 8PM, but ran out of food earlier than advertised. Due to running out of food, a volunteer was not able to order a meal. Alcohol was being served until 10PM, but since food ran out earlier than expected; again, definitely be more of a balance between alcohol and food. Offer credit card payment options rather than just cash. Credit card machines could/should be available. Fire pits were enjoyed and truly a great idea. Questioned whether there were enough volunteers and it seemed all was covered. Have central Volunteer informational booth/tent to ensure volunteers arrive, and/or provide instructions for duties. There was an incident where the gym was basically trashed, but some 8th graders did assist with the cleanup. Deny or limit access to certain areas throughout the campus/school. It was also stated there may have been different times published in various advertisements. Bernadette will be attending the Fall Festival follow-

up meeting this Thursday and share these comments/suggestions. Much appreciation for all the effort to plan the Fall Festival!

Final Thoughts/ Comments/ Concerns –

SFO calendar was distributed by Corrin Thornton for all to reference events.

Fr. Haley will check to see if First Communicants will be able to receive the Precious Blood in some safe form.

Deacon Al distributed Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Parish 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration Proposal Submitted to Fr. Haley and the Parish Council by Bob McGartland document. After discussion it was decided to offer Bob suggestion we support Eucharistic Adoration, but with another parish in our Deanery that already has this established, due to the Strategic Pastoral Planning.

Closing Prayer: Deacon Al Love

Meeting adjourned: 8:45 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, November 8th at 7PM

Blessings, love and peace,

Bernadette Dalton

Parish Council Secretary