**Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 3rd, 2024**

Attendees: Steve Bentz, Chris Stock, Don Clemmer, Joe McKenna, Steve Jahrsdoerfer, Mike O’Neil, Cynthia Crosby, Katie Eckrich, Linda Gutoskey, Cathy Krouse, Dennis Redding, Keith Heimann, Jared Hoy, Deacon Rob Lortie, Fr. Tom, Fr. Bobby

1. The new Parish Directory proofs have been approved; the books will be delivered in mid-January. Volunteers will be needed to help distribute at Masses, checking names from a master list.

2. The Parish Council will be providing dinner to the Saint Joseph Center on January 18th. Joe McKenna is coordinating the effort. Bring any questions to him.

3. Saint Charles is coordinating a study group during the Lenten season to better understand the Eucharistic Prayer. [Subsequent note: Meetings will be on Wednesday mornings, following the 8:15 Mass, beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14.]

4. Our Parish Forty Hours of Devotion is February 25, 26 and 27. In addition to the hours of adoration, our guest speaker and Mass celebrant will be native son Father Patrick Mary Briscoe.

5. The National Eucharistic Congress will be held in Indianapolis on July 17 – 21. Single day tickets have just been made available.

6. We will be hosting a talk from Jason Shanks in our sanctuary Thursday, January 18th at 7:30 pm. He is the President of the Eucharistic Revival Congress.

7. Big Parish Projects

a. The school window project is moving forward with the design phase and a projected installation in summer of 2024.

b. The lengthy office drainage project has been resolved.

c. Parking lot lighting has been improved.

d. The remodeling project for our Youth House has been halted as we consider demolition and a rebuild. With funds available, we could build a more up-to-date building that would better suit our needs than a remodel of a 1960s convent. More discussion will follow.

8. The beneficiaries of our Giving Tree events during the month of December have been very pleased with the generosity shown by this Parish.

9. Father Bobby is spearheading the planning of a summertime event that will be taking place on the Saint Charles campus. The tentative plan is to host a (possibly 21 and over) gathering to enjoy a meal, food to share and possibly an adult beverage with a discussion. Bible, burgers and beer will take form as we march towards the wonderful warmer weather.

10. After a wonderful exchange with the Greek Orthodox community, we are considering another ecumenical event, involving a black Baptist church. A pastor on the southeast side of town has been suggested.

11. A generous financial gift has been given to the Parish. Fr. Tom shared for discussion a list of suggestions he has received for use of those funds. Following a meeting with the parish finance council next week, a group will be assembled to continue discussions before decisions are made. We want to be sure that the parish is consulted and informed. For now, the funds are deposited with the diocese and we are receiving 2% interest.

The next Parish Council meeting will be February 7th at 7:00 PM.