

**Date:** 01/09/24

**Time:** 7:15 PM

## IN ATTENDANCE

Cara Barone, James Cady, Sonya Coelho, Fr Joe Connelly (Pastor), Pat Dolan, Pat Ryan (Parish Administrator), Steve Sims (Trustee).

## ABSENTEES

Mathew Amos, Jonathan Amos, Dan Furey, Greg Larson, Mary Martha Heasley, Lourdes Rivera, Debbie Stadt

## MISC ITEMS

- **Engagement Commission:** The Engagement Commission is seeking nominees from parish ministries for the next Quarter St. Michael Rising Star awards which will be presented at the February 4 Masses. The Engagement Commission has added two new members, Cara Barone and Karen. Our next in person meeting will be February 6.
- **Parishioner Inputs:** Cara Barone brought up 2 issues; Parishioners have commented on the use of incense during Masses. Fr Joe will address this in time as incense has always been used in worship and GA will continue to use incense on high days for worship. Also, some parishioners are upset at the perceived lack of disrespect from other parishioners as they use the church to meet and greet before and after Masses. Fr Joe has already addressed this issue at Jan 15 Masses, calling people's attention for the need to maintain respectful silence before and after Masses, to allow parishioners the needed silence to pray and reflect.
- **New Trustee:** Fr Joe introduced to attending members new Trustee Steve Sims. Steve replaces Sue Pitts.
- **Church Doors:** Repairs have been completed and the new doors have been established. There is still need for some tweaking. As shared earlier, the plan is to have the doors locked during business hours during the week. GA staff will buzz visitors in. However, the protocol is yet to be developed. So for now it's business as usual.
- **Fall Festival:** Please contact Pat Ryan
- **Synod:** Practice sessions have started January 2024 with the intention for small groups to become active Lent 2024. Topics yet to be determined.

## JOC UPDATE

- **Refugee Resettlement:** GA has sponsored a Nicaraguan Family. This family lives in a building which houses more than 40 other refugee families. GA is helping 7 of these families with schooling and other needs.
- **Giving Center:** GA continues to give out gas cards and gift cards. GA raised \$8200 for Community Thread to be distributed to families that registered through them.
- **Loaves & Fishes:** GA continues to volunteer every month. Usually 8-10 people help with serving and cooking for 270-300 people every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.
- **Hope for Journey Home:** All volunteer overnight spots are now filled.
- **Respect Life:** GA is collecting baby items for Options East; their banquet is April 30<sup>th</sup>. Steve Sims, GA Trustee, will be presenting as part of the Speaker Series on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Alveda Smith from Woodbury Options will address the February meeting.
- **Creation Care/Food Garden:** Good news is that GA will have a Garden this summer. We are working with Open Cupboard to increase the volunteer pool for the Food Garden. There is also an effort to address Sustainability and the Food Garden through the Speaker Series.
- **Community Kitchen:** This is a new initiative. In partnership with Open Cupboard, GA will host its first Community Meal Event for the homeless on **April 13<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7.00 PM in the Peter O'Neill Hall**. The first dinner will be catered, and the menu right now is likely to be pasta, salad, non-alcoholic beverages and dessert. GA needs volunteers to support the event - greeters, set-up, servers, table bussers and clean up. Sign-up sheet may be accessed at <https://signup.com/go/WUmfAKf> Please contact Terry Quinn, Director of Justice & Outreach, GA either at [tquinn@guardian-angels.org](mailto:tquinn@guardian-angels.org) or 651-789-318 for further details.
- **Community Kitchen International Cuisine** will be working with Open Cupboard and the Nature Center on two outdoor events in the Summer. The refugee families from three different countries will be involved. The plan is to also host Filipino and Indian food tasting options.

### Winter-Spring Speaker Series:

- **January 18:** Sarah Carter is a young mother with a love for the environment and an expert on Laudato Si (Creation Care).
- **January 31:** Former inmates will share how God came into their lives while on the Inside and how they are bringing the message of Salvation to others now on the Outside
- **February:** A seminar on homelessness in Washington County
- **February 28:** Debrea Chambers will speak on sex trafficking
- **March 13:** Steve Sims will address the Pastoral approach to respect life;
- **April 17:** Amy Leivad from St Thomas will speak on Restorative Justice

## LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLAN

PPC accepted the LRSP submitted by Pat Dolan and Cara Barone. This will be now available on the GA website.

## ADULT EDUCATION

- Advent Book Club - Mother Teresa's *Come Be my Light*

- Family centered formation observations - St Pius X (White Bear Lake) & St Michael (Pine Island)
- 3 Family Ministry events
- 3 Wednesday Faith Formation nights
- 3 Holy Hours
- Lifelong Faith Formation committee meeting
- Vicariate Meeting w/ Diocese - Focused on learning to evaluate programs yearly
- Synod Small Group selection meeting for January
- Synod ECT meeting #4
- Youth Group & Confirmation observation @ St. Ambrose
- January Vatican II talk prep

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

**Next meeting at 02/13/2024 at 7.15 pm**