

JANUARY 19,
2023
MEETING #9

St. Theresa Parish Pastoral Council General Meeting #9 1/19/23

Date: January 19, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm

Roll Call: 10 people present. Ann Dols, Andrew Gross, Angela Wolfe, Barb Woods, Cheyenne Hemmer, Deacon David Schmidt, Jane Ann Becicka, Jean Hemmer, Megs Howes Tricia Lloyd

- I. Opening Prayer- Deacon David
- II. Review October/20/2022 Minutes
 - A. Andrew moved to approve; Ann Seconded
- III. Review reports document compiled on January 16, 2023
 - A. Discussion followed about Altar Servers; how many do we have and who are they?
 1. We have 18-25 Altar Servers
 - a. Most only want to serve at School mass.
 2. There will be a training in the spring to bring in more servers.
- IV. Any new reports from committees/organizations
 - A. Knights- N/A
 - B. Peace and Justice
 1. Kudos to Fr Raphael for marketing Fair Trade items so well!
 2. Donation to Gala- Peace and Justice had enough left after the bazaar to donate a basket with wine in it!
 - C. Faith Formation Council
 1. This committee will meet before Lent with Fr. Raphael present.
 2. Council is a good sounding board for upcoming Lenten ideas.
 - D. Worship and Spirituality
 1. Communion Wine will be a new brand of wine.
 2. Bishop sent out a preferred list of wines, which included Carlo Rossi and some boxed wines; but not the wine we currently use.
 - E. Pastoral Care
 1. Mass of Remembrance
 - a. 5 tiles remain to be picked up.
 - b. One parishioner returned to Mass for the first time in over 2 years to attend.
 2. Homebound Parishioners
 - a. 30 to 35 parishioners are homebound.

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- b. Visits are to short term and long-term care, and hospital visits are back.
 - c. 6 more pyxes are being ordered to meet the increase in demand for communion for homebound parishioners.
 - d. Fr. Daniel Adjei is assisting on home visits and blessings on Thursdays.
 - e. Discussion that 70% of our registered parishioners are over 60
3. Medical Equipment Lending Library
- a. Wheelchairs/walkers have been donated and any excess or unused items will go to Easter Seals in the Spring.
4. Ongoing Duties
- a. Visiting newly registered parishioners, as requested
 - b. Funerals; with possible visitations or luncheons
 - c. Mailing Stephen Ministry grief booklets with Tricia Lloyd's help
- F. Food Pantry
- 1. Anita Holub has stepped back, which will create a huge change.
 - 2. Aldi's is donating their excess to us!
- G. Pro Life
- 1. Contest- We are still trying to arrange lunch between the winners of the contest and Principal Watznauer and Fr. Raphael
 - 2. Adoration- We are hosting on January 29th this month.
 - 3. New Membership- We are looking for members!
 - 4. February 7th- This is the next meeting.
- H. St. Vincent de Paul
- 1. Membership has increased!
 - a. 3 High Schoolers agreed to serve for 1 year: Bernard Kohfi, Isaiah Seymour, and Jack Smith
 - b. The new members have agreed to help St. Theresa Food Pantry during Lent and take on leadership roles.
 - 2. Sorting clothes can result in \$1,000 from a cart full of clothing. In one month, St. Vincent made \$73,000 from sales.
- I. STARS
- 1. Table and Chair set up for funerals.
 - a. Discussion followed about who could or should do this job.

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- b. 8-12 Tables are usually set up for fellowship on Sundays, but most funerals need more than that.
- c. Scouts, Middle School Students, homeschool families could all be asked
 - i. 2 or more students need to have 2 Versus trained adults with them.
 - ii. Tricia will e-mail the school about this.
 - iii. Jean will contact the Scouts.
 - iv. Need to develop a list, if possible

2. Storage Closet is left messy.

- a. Discussion followed about the designated shelving and use of space in the storage closet.
- b. Tricia has a goal to gather people to pick up or clean the kitchen.
- c. Jean will develop an email about the kitchen and the duties for Tatia to send out.

J. Fellowship with Friends

- 1. Fresh fruit will be offered every 2nd week by St. Vincent de Paul, along with donuts. Less donuts will be ordered those weeks.
- 2. Reminder: Jean is e-mailing the contacts for each group to serve donuts. It is up to the contact to disperse that information to the rest of the group so they can help serve. Even if the groups don't meet!!!

K. Membership

- 1. Executive Pastoral Council and General Pastoral Council, both need more members!
 - a. Please submit any names of people that could be recommended for these roles.
- 2. Further discussion will be held with Father.

V. Meeting Dates 2023- Get these on your calendars!

Month	Date	Time	Type
January	12	6:30 PM	Executive
	19	7:00 PM	General
February	9	6:30 PM	Executive
	16	7:00 PM	General
April	13	6:30 PM	Executive

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	20	7:00 PM	General
June	8	6:30 PM	Executive
	15	7:00 PM	General
August	10	6:30 PM	Executive
	17	7:00 PM	General
October	12	6:30 PM	Executive
	19	7:00 PM	General
December	14	6:30 PM	Executive
	21	7:00 PM	General

VI. Visioning Plans and Goals for 2023

1. Committees to advise their short-term and long-term activities by April meeting.
 - a. Jean to send out spreadsheet to members.

VII. Major Events 2023

1. Night of Reflection - Fr. Tim Fitzgerald, March 23rd
2. Lenten Retreat - Fr. Flood, March 30th
3. Grieving with Great Hope - Grief support groups, Tuesdays 2:00-4:00PM, April and May
4. Palm Sunday - Evening of Reflection based on the last words of Christ, April 2nd.
5. Mass of Anointing - Thursday, 10:30AM April 27th
6. Parish Picnic – October 1st.
 - a. Committee should be forming by June to prepare for the picnic.
7. Parish Theme for January 2024 to December 2024
 - a. Submit ideas for new theme by April's meeting!

VIII. Closing Prayer - Megs Howes

Reports to Pastoral Council for 1/19/23 Meeting from Ministries and Organizations

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Faith Formation & Parish Council Report January, 2023

Jane Ann Becicka, Children’s Faith Formation Coordinator

Wednesday Faith Formation (WFF) Rich in scripture, symbolism and hands-on learning experiences, the Family Advent Night was well-received in November.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word continues with 12- 20+ children per session.

Children’s Masses Were held Nov. 20 @ 8:30 and Nov. 27 @ 10:30. We will evaluate this ministry

Altar Server Training Many students are very excited to become altar servers. Training will resume early in the year with the assistance of already trained servers.

Professional Development In November I attended a workshop about practical ways to implement family/intergenerational faith formation. Paulette Chapman led the session at St. Augustin Church. I attended a follow-up session this month which focused on assessing and overcoming obstacles to this faith education process.

Reports to Pastoral Council for 1/19/23 Meeting from Ministries and Organizations

I will attend the diocesan faith formation leaders' retreat on February 2-3.

Sacraments Twenty-five students received First Reconciliation in November. An additional ten students will receive First Eucharist in May. Seven of those students will also be baptized.

Vacation Bible School Tentatively scheduled for June 27-29, leader training on June 26.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Ann Becicka, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator

[Children's Faith Formation Parish Council Report
December, 2022](#)

Wednesday Faith Formation (WFF) We gained 5 more students in the last month. Classes are running smoothly because of our terrific catechists and substitute teachers. The family Advent evening was well-attended & I received positive comments about the activities. We had 10 stations with scripture, an activity and discussion questions for parents & their children to encounter the meaning of Advent to prepare our hearts for Jesus.

Children's Liturgy of the Word continues with about 10-20+ children per session.

Children's Masses were held Nov. 20 @ 8:30 and Nov. 27 @ 10:30. Both were well attended and supported by student liturgical ministers. Being attentive to the ministry needs of concurrent masses and the needs of the children, we will review the program before planning any further children's Masses.

Reports to Pastoral Council for 1/19/23 Meeting from Ministries and Organizations

Professional Development was held in November at St. Augustin Church about practical ways to implement family/intergenerational faith formation. Paulette Chapman led the session.

Sacraments:

First Reconciliation was held November 16 & 17 with a reception following. Twenty-five students and one adult received the sacrament for the first time. Several more will receive sacraments in the spring when they are baptized. Thank you to five area priests who assisted.

First Eucharist has been rescheduled for one Mass on Sunday, May 7th at 12:15pm. Parent consensus was reached and Fr. Raphael and I are on board with the update.

Altar Server training continues. Wed. night faith formation held sessions in October to train 4th & 5th graders. At least 5 new servers have already begun assisting at the altar.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Ann Becicka, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator

Reports to Pastoral Council for 1/19/23 Meeting from Ministries and Organizations

Adult Faith Formation Report: January 2023

Study Groups are almost done with *The Archaeology of the Bible*. We will finish the end of January. Then we will head into *The Chosen* Season 3.

We ordered over 400 copies of *Holy Moments*: and approx. 200 copies of *Understanding the Mass*. All books have been taken. Mass packets continue to be picked up.

I continue to attend webinars on *Divine Renovation* which is the hot topic of churches recently. It is a visioning process.

Lunch and Learn:

December Advent mini-retreat with Father Larry Hoffmann was a success with over 40 people.

January had Ellen Stemler giving a talk on her Ireland trip which was enjoyable.

February will be Jasmine Bailey from Employee and Family Resources for a Generation

RX informational session.

March will be Sarah Borzo on recycling.

April is Holy Week.

Group size has been around 10-15 people.

Cards & Games continues to be on the fourth Wednesday from 1-3pm. Numbers are increasing.

Newsletter: The next one will go out mid-February and arrive in homes, hopefully, before Ash Wednesday on February 22.

Lenten materials will be ordered soon. There will be a special prayer service on Palm Sunday using the last words of Christ.

There are now 118 warriors on the **St. Theresa Prayer Warrior** list. We have had a lot of requests within the last few months.

The **Ministry Scheduler Pro** schedule through the end of February is now online ready for sign-ups. We have been increasing the number of Eucharistic Ministers at each Mass due to one deacon. Wine has been suspended for a while due to flu and COVID. The wine choice may also be changing.

RCIA: We have no candidates this year so the team will be meeting to regroup and rebuild. Some of the team will be working with the 4th & 5th graders in need of Baptism to help Jane Ann out.

Christmas came and went!

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Woods

Reports to Pastoral Council for 1/19/23 Meeting from Ministries and Organizations

Youth Ministry Report for January 2023 by Megs Howes

NCYC 22

We had a great time in Long beach, Ca with our friends from Holy Trinity and our friends from Council Bluffs.

What I have done since November?

- Attended NCYC with 10,000 Catholics from across the US
- Working with other YM to plan social, service and mission trips
- Had a blast working with the middle and high school students at the summer events and watching them grow in faith.
- Middle School and High School youth group have meet

Edge, Confirmation and Life Teen Core Teams

All Core Teams are getting ready for the up coming sessions that will start in January and February

January Events

- C1/C2 (January 11) 6:30-8pm @ parish hall, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
- Edge session (January 11) 6:30-7:30 @ school gym, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
- Service Opportunity: Youth Choir (4th-12th grade) (January 15) Meet @ 10 am in the choir's section for 10:30 am Mass
- NCYC Meeting Parent meeting Sunday, January 15th, 6:30pm – 7:30pm @ Parish Hall (Open to current 8th grade families)
- NCYC Meeting Parent meeting Sunday, January 15th, 6:30pm – 7:30pm @ Parish Hall
- NCYC Meeting Parent meeting Mon, January 16th, 6:30pm – 7:30pm @ Parish Office Open to current 8th grade families)
- Edge session (January 11) 6:30-7:30 @ school gym, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
- Edge (Jan 18) 6:30-7:30pm @ school gym, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
- Service Opportunity: Babysitting for Pre-K Round Up (January 19) 6-7:30 pm in the School
- Service Opportunity: Tie Blanket event (MS/HS families and open to parish) (January 25) 6:30-7:30 pm @ School Gym

February 2023

Meeting 10



ST. THERESA PASTORAL COUNCIL
Come Back to Me with All Your Heart

MINUTES of Pastoral Council General Meeting # 10

Thursday, February 23, 2023 7:00 PM (postponed from 2/16 by bad weather)

Present: 15 people attended Jean Hemmer, Cheyenne Hemmer, Andrew Gross, Tricia Lloyd, Fr. Raphael Assamah, Barb Woods, Tom McMahon, Jane Ann Becicka, Vicki Nolan, Anne Dols, Angela Wolfe, Jan Slaten, Kenneth Seymour, Deacon David Schmidt, Mary McConville

Unable to attend: Pat Trout, Celeste Egger, Tory Tyrell

AGENDA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Opening Prayer – II. Approval of 1/19/23 Minutes III. Committee/Organization Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Knights b. Peace and Justice c. Faith Formation Council d. Worship and Spirituality e. Pastoral Care f. Food Pantry g. Pro Life h. St. Vincent de Paul i. STARS j. Fellowship with Friends k. Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Names submitted? l. Strategic Visioning Team – Update regarding providing minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IV. Visioning Plans and Goals Ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reminder to provide during the April meeting. V. Major Events 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lent/Easter Activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Night of Reflection – Fr. Tim Fitzgerald, March 23rd ii. Lenten Retreat – Fr. Flood, March 30th iii. Palm Sunday – Evening of Reflection based on the last words of Christ, April 2nd. b. Parish Picnic – October 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Will form committee June. c. Parish Theme for 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Reminder to have ideas for new theme during April’s meeting. VI. Other Items to Discuss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gender Identity Guide and Policies – Diocese of Des Moines VII. Closing Prayer
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PROCEEDINGS

I Opening Prayer – Andrew Gross

II Minutes Approval 1/19/23 Meeting

correction made to V Major Events ai should say “Lenten Mini-Retreat” and a ii “Lenten Evening of Reflection” Andrew Gross moved that the minutes be approved as amended and Tricia Lloyd seconded. Unanimously approved.

III COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Written reports are available in the “Organization Reports for Feb 2023 Meeting.pdf”

#	Organization/Group	Coming up
a	Knights of Columbus	<p>Kenneth Seymour reported Fish Fry starts 2/24 in person Fellowship emphasis, but funds beyond food costs (which are way up!) will go to Seminarians and the STCS Gala event</p> <p>Fr Raphael asked if preparing for the Fish Fry on makes it difficult for members to attend Stations. Kenneth said there are only 3 key workers occupied the entire afternoon, so members could get to one.</p>



ST. THERESA PASTORAL COUNCIL

Come Back to Me with All Your Heart

		Kenneth also reported that the Knights coverage of Sunday 4:30 Mass lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers is being beefed up by proactively assigning each member dates to serve in this ministry.
B	Peace & Justice	Anne Dols noted that always need help with Shelter Meal on the 8 th of each month, and Peace & Justice is donating a basket for the raffle at the STCS Gala.
C	Faith Formation Council	Barb Woods noted that changes in the date of the General Council meetings created conflicts with the Faith Formation Council meeting time....which had been adjusted two times to avoid conflict! The Council will be releasing a Lenten “Play List” of a variety of devotional tools.
D	Worship & Spirituality	Barb referred to the details in the committee’s report on Lenten activity. She said that there will be a reception after the Easter Vigil to celebrate, even though there are no candidates this year. The RCIA team is taking the opportunity of time to refine the program.
E	Pastoral Care	Deacon David said Fr. Daniel Ajei is helping with Pastoral Care visits on Thursdays. Grief Support Groups will be offered in April and May. The next Mass of Anointing is April 27.
F	Food Pantry	Kenneth reported that demand at the Food Pantry has doubled, and the space is strained. Tom McMahon is coordinating a project to reconfigure the Food Pantry area in the Parish Office starting 2/25 to improve the flow for providing guests with food.
G	Pro Life	Angela Wolfe reported the Spiritual Adoption prayer program will close with a parish baby shower in May. Fr Raphael inquired about whether our parish does any post-abortion counseling. There is no formal activity, but Anne Dols noted that the Rachel’s Vineyard program has been promoted on an area basis.
H	St Vincent de Paul	Jan Slaten said that they are living the commitment to healthy lifestyle taught to participants in SVdP programs by offering fresh fruit and less donuts during their Fellowship with Friends week. Easter Food Baskets will be prepared and distributed in April. She invited recommendations for people who might benefit from a home visit to assess options for help. Andrew shared that a home visit made earlier bore some fruit as the person who is being helped has returned to Mass after time away. A concert as a major fundraiser is under consideration. The hope was to have it with the Parish Picnic in August (the talent for the act has limited availability), but the Picnic has been moved to October 1 for the feast of St Theresa celebration.
I	STARS	Tricia Lloyd happily reported that the aged, awkward, heavy warmer in the Parish Kitchen has been replaced by a much more convenient model that had been in use at the school kitchen. She had BIG THANKS to Kenneth for making life much easier for the Funeral Dinner team. Fr. Raphael asked why there is no chairman for STARS. Joan Ferguson organized a STARS get togethers 2/18 that included discussion of changes needed to revitalize the group.



ST. THERESA PASTORAL COUNCIL

Come Back to Me with All Your Heart

J	Fellowship with Friends	Jean Hemmer reported that attendance is growing.
K	Pastoral Council Membership	Jean asked if anyone had names to suggest for additional members of the Executive Committee. A letter from the Pastoral Committee will be sent to candidates to see if there is interest in serving. If so, Father will call them.
L	Strategic Visioning Core Team	Mary McConville reported that the Organization Report Feb 2023 packed contains a report about the Strategic Visioning Core Team. Father formed it to coordinate listening sessions and participation in a five year pastoral strategic plan. It is patterned on the work John Gaffney led for the Diocesan Synod on Synodality efforts in 2021-22.

V MAJOR EVENTS – see list in agenda above

VI OTHER ITEMS Gender Identity Guide and Policies of the Diocese of Des Moines

Fr. Raphael distributed the Guide prior to the meeting for review, and invites further discussion by the Council. He stressed the importance of protecting our children and their friends from dangers to body and soul inherent in the cultural opposition to the truth of creation.

VII CLOSING PRAYER by Deacon David

IMPORTANT DEADLINE FOR ORGANIZATION/GROUP LIAISONS:

Next Pastoral Council Reports due Tuesday, April 11

Please include your group’s response to :

1. Plans & Goals based on June 2022 Brainstorming ideas
2. At least one name for potential Pastoral Council membership
3. Idea(s) for 2024 Pastoral Theme

Attachments:

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION REPORTS Feb 2023

Gender Identity Guide and Policies

Draft submitted 2/27/23 by Mary McConville

Reports to Pastoral Council from Organizations & Groups 2/23

- ▼  Org Reports Feb 23 General Meeting
 -  Adult Faith Formation February 2023 (
 -  Childrens Faith Formation Feb 2023
 -  Youth Ministry report for Jan 2023
 -  Youth Ministry Report for Feb 2023
 -  St Vincent de Paul Feb 2023
 -  Peace & Justice Feb 2023
 -  Liturgy Committee Feb 23
 -  Strategic Visioning Feb 23

Adult Faith Formation Report: February 2023

Study Groups: We finished the *The Archaeology of the Bible*. Now we are into *The Chosen* Season 3. *The Book of Romans* will follow.

I continue to attend webinars on *Divine Renovation* which is the hot topic of churches recently. It is a visioning process. Also, trying to keep up with the Eucharistic Revival material.

Lunch and Learn:

February was Jasmine Bailey from Employee and Family Resources for a Generation RX informational session. We had a small group, but it was very informative.

March will be Sarah Borzo on recycling.

April is Holy Week.

May will be Pietra, a revised yoga for Catholics, with Joy Kerkhoff Nobles.

Cards & Games continues to be on the fourth Wednesday from 1-3pm. Numbers are increasing.

Newsletter: It will be going out next week. Hopefully, it will be in homes before Ash Wednesday on February 22.

Lenten materials have been ordered.

Our mini-retreat is March

There will be a special prayer service on Palm Sunday, April 2, using the "Last Words of Christ."

Fr. Reed Flood will give a talk on March 30 at 6:30 on Lent and the Eucharist.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 5pm will again be done with a speaker at each station.

We will need 74 people to read and 6 cross bearers.

The **Ministry Scheduler Pro** schedule through the end of May, minus Easter Vigil and Ash Wednesday, is now online ready for sign-ups. Wine still remains suspended for a while due to flu and COVID. The wine choice will be changing as soon as the last bottle is gone.

RCIA: We have no candidates this year so the team is meeting to regroup and rebuild. Some of the team will be working with the 4th & 5th graders in need of Baptism to help Jane Ann out. We now have two high school catechumens, unbaptized, to start.

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Woods

Jane Ann Becicka, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Wednesday Faith Formation (WFF) A new 5th grade student is joining class this week, Feb. 15. She will begin RCIA for Children in addition to participating in Wednesday Faith Formation classes with her peers. We now have 58 students and 41 families. Fifth grade students and families will serve dinner at Central Iowa Shelter & Services on March 8th.

Children's Liturgy of the Word relocated on Feb. 5th due to large attendance—over 30 children! We continue each Sunday at 10:30 through the end of April.

Children's Masses The faith formation team is evaluating this ministry for future dates.

Altar Server Training Many students are very excited to become altar servers. Training will resume soon with the assistance of already trained servers.

Professional Development I attended another diocesan workshop in January on family ministry. I attended the diocesan retreat for catechetical leaders Feb. 2-3. I will attend a diocesan program on Feb. 16 regarding Eucharistic renewal & further discussion on ministering to families who have a loved one experiencing body dysphoria.

Sacraments A parent meeting was held on Jan. 25th regarding children's preparation for 1st Eucharist. Almost all parents were able to attend. The 1st Eucharist Learning Centers, an opportunity for review and practice, will be held Wednesday, April 26th 3:30-7:30pm. First Eucharist Mass will be on Sunday, May 7th at 12:15 pm. Meanwhile, parents are asked to sign up for a Mass during which they will take up the gifts.

Vacation Bible School Tentatively scheduled for June 26-30. We've already had some inquiries and have requested that the Dominican Sisters of the Eucharist return again this summer. We will find out in April if they can join us. St. Agustin Parish will be our partner. Children wishing to attend VBS need to register through St. Theresa or St. Agustin Parish.

Parish Service Children's & Youth Faith Formation continue to partner with the Pro-life Committee to host fellowship on the first Sunday of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Ann Becicka, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator

YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT Jan '23

Youth Ministry Report for January 2023 by Megs Howes

NCYC 22

We had a great time in Long beach, Ca with our friends from Holy Trinity and our friends from Council Bluffs.

What I have done since November?

- Attended NCYC with 10,000 Catholics from across the US
- Working with other YM to plan social, service and mission trips
- Had a blast working with the middle and high school students at the summer events and watching them grow in faith.
- Middle School and High School youth group have meet

Edge, Confirmation and Life Teen Core Teams

All Core Teams are getting ready for the up coming sessions that will start in January and February

January Events

- C1/C2 (January 11) 6:30-8pm @ parish hall, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
- Edge session (January 11) 6:30-7:30 @ school gym, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
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Youth Ministry Report for February 2023

by Megs Howes

NCYC 23

We had a great time in Long beach, Ca with our friends from Holy Trinity and our friends from Council Bluffs.

What I have done since January?

- Attending Youth Minister Meeting
 - Working with other YM to plan social, service and mission trips for summer
 - Preparing for NCYC 23
 - Middle School and High School youth group have meet Edge, Confirmation and Life Teen Core Teams
- All Core Teams are getting ready for the upcoming sessions that will start in and March

Upcoming Sessions for February

- Edge/Life Teen Session (Feb 1) 6:30-7:30 @ school gym
- Edge session (Feb 8) 6:30-7:30 @ school gym, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
- C1/C2 (Feb 8) 6:30-8pm @ parish hall, snacks 5:30-6:30 pm @ parish hall
- No Edge/Life Teen sessions (Feb 15) due to core team planning
- Service Opportunity: Youth Choir (4th-12th grade) (Feb 19) Meet @ 10 am in the choir's section for 10:30 am Mass
- Sunday Middle & High School Youth Group (Feb 19) 5:30-7:00 pm @ Parish Hall
- Ash Weds Masses (Feb 22) 6:30 am, 8:30 am and 6:30 pm @ St. Theresa

Future Ideas

- Community Bingo for the parish
- Game night for parish mixing families, adults and youth

PEACE & JUSTICE REPORT Feb '23

1. Social events: Fair Trade Sales: \$1,500 made after bills paid
2. Service: CISS meal – monthly serving up to 225 people, 325 in January and February, Catholic Charities Family Shelter meal- 4th Friday of the month serving up to 10 families, Fair Trade sales- last weekend of the month, DMARC collection - monthly, Family Promise as needed monthly meal or overnight stay
3. Other past news from your organization:

Disbursements:

First Fruits: Through December 2022: \$1,531.32. Paid out on deficit from CC transportation shelter account: \$1,116.33. In 2023 shelter will receive \$60 monthly for transportation.

Peace and Justice account: December 2022: \$1,318.37 Disbursement to CCHS \$1,000.

Coffee Fund account: Iowa Solidarity Microfinance Program: \$1,000. (Local organization that provides technical assistance, training and small business loans to low-income Iowans in underserved communities.)

Upcoming service:

Fair Trade basket donated for school fundraiser. Valued at \$100.00

from Celeste Egger 2/17/2023

St. Vincent de Paul REPORT Feb '23

Here the report for St.Vincent de Paul:

1. We are doing a trial run with fresh fruit at Coffee and Fellowship this month. I'll report back if it is a hit.
2. We would like to host Steve Angrisano at our parish for a concert on August 13th and are hoping we can combine it with the parish hog roast.
(I'm hoping to meet with Father and Kenneth to discuss this)
3. Have not had a home visit since December and welcome the parish council to forward us any names of parishioners in need of spiritual, physical or financial assistance.
4. We are going to plan an Easter Basket for needy families

Jan Slaten 2/17/2023

Liturgy Committee Meeting February 14, 2023

Lent at this time:

Lenten materials will be out the weekend of February 18-19

Burning of the ashes will be Wednesday after the school Mass and Wednesday evening at 7:10pm during WFF

Music: Bells at the entrance and the closing.

Kyrie sung, need to use the Confiteor form as Kyrie being used as no verses.

Using Mass of Wondrous Love

Clacker for the elevations

Communion Meditation hymn, usually two verses

There will be a Mass at 6:30 am **Monday** thru Friday, no communion services.

There will be a 5:45 pm Mass on **Tuesday**, Wednesday and Thursday. Holy Hour after Mass.

Friday stations are at 2:30 and 5pm. We will be doing the speakers at each station at the 5:00 Stations. Students need to learn how to read and reflect.

The Lenten speaker is Fr. Reed Flood on Thursday, March 30, at 6:30 pm topic being "Lent and the Eucharist"

There is a special prayer service on the "Seven Last Words of Christ" on Sunday, April 2, at 6pm (probably 6-7:00pm). He is **not** cancelling the Sunday 4:30 Mass. Youth as well are welcome to read. Credit Father James Martin for reflections.

Décor: Reminder not to place under the altar. Place to the sides of the altar, on steps, in front of lectern or in large space to the west of the altar where all sides can see something. After discussion, purple covering on cross through Lent.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday: palm distribution – wave and move body, dance

Holy Thursday:

- Oils
- Foot Washing
- Wine at Communion on Thursday and Easter
 - If sick, please don't receive
- Closing Procession
- Altar of Repose to 11 pm then to working sacristy – Stage will be up again

Good Friday:

- Passion – three readers
- Intercessions: Chant deacon/priest, Jodi Alberts/priest
- Veneration
 - Someone to follow and take the cloths & pins
 - After 7:00pm have people put it away in the hall

- Collection for Holy Land
- Communion
 - Red tablecloth

Easter Vigil:

- Exultet – Sean may not be available. Deacon David may prepare unless someone else wishes to sing it.
- No Baptisms or professions at this point
- Add another reading: Abraham story
- Reception will happen as we are all renewing our baptismal vows

Training for ministers: Servers, EMs, Lectors: Table for a later date

Commissioning

Need to train servers again and add on third graders: Kelly/Josh for WWF and Deacon David for school

2/21/23 addition from Fr. Raphael

At our Presbyterial meeting today, I asked Bishop Joensen the liturgical guidelines for covering images in the church.

He said we should follow the rubrics in the Roman missal while he sent guidelines to the priests. In view of this, I removed the beautiful cloth for the crucifix. It can be used after the liturgy on Holy Thursday, then taken off before Holy Saturday vigil.

Thank you for the beautiful decorations and covering the crucifix. Sorry I have to remove the cloth covering the crucifix contrary to our previous agreement.
Blessings!

Fr. Raphael

St Theresa Strategic Visioning Core Team Report

Fr. Raphael has assembled a core team to begin work on a 5 year strategic plan for the parish. It includes: Jeanne Thill, Andrew Gross, Tricia Pietig, Deacon David, Mary McConville, Bob Lawler and Pat Trout.

They have met 3 times, most recently on 2/20/2023. They are working on gathering information on the current state of parish pastoral programs and activities as a baseline for discussions of future strategies. The Diocesan themes for improvement were discerned after extensive listening efforts in 2021 and 2022 for the Region IX report about the Synod* on Synodality.

Plans are underway for listening sessions to define strategic issues, then discern strategies to address them, and finally prepare an action plan for 2024-29.

submitted by Mary McConville 2/22/2023

Themes Guiding St Theresa Parish Pastoral Strategic Visioning Core Team Efforts

1. Inspire our Youth and Young Adults - Jeanne
2. Invite and Welcome People to Community - Mary
3. Celebrate the Eucharist - Jeanne
4. Offer Meaningful Adult Faith Formation - Tricia
5. Accompany and Support Families - Deacon David
6. Address the Polarization in Today's World - Andrew
7. Communicate and Apply Catholic Social Teaching - Bob
8. Assist the Poor and Refugees - Pat
9. Evangelization Outreach - Deacon David

*"The term "synod" means to be on the same [path with other disciples who follow Jesus Christ, the Way who leads us to abundant life. Quote from John Gaffney 1/5/22 blog post "What's Happening With The Synod?"

APRIL 20, 2023

MEETING 11



MINUTES of Pastoral Council General Meeting # 11

Thursday, April 20, 2023 7:00 PM

Present: 15 people attended Pat Trout, Jean Hemmer, Cheyenne Hemmer, Andrew Gross, Fr. Raphael Assamah, Barb Woods, Jane Ann Becicka, Megs Howes, Anne Dols, Celeste Egger, Angela Wolfe, Jan Slaten, Kenneth Seymour, Deacon David Schmidt, Mary McConville

Unable to attend: Tory Tyrell, Tricia Lloyd

AGENDA for 4/20/23

Opening Prayer
Approval of February 23, 2023
1. Review Committee reports
2. Visioning Committee update
3. Ideas for 2024 theme
4. What did we learn from the 2023 theme?
5. Nominations for Pastoral Council Executive Committee
6. Possible music event at Colby Park this summer
New business
7. 2023 Advent activities
Closing prayer
Next Meetings
Executive Committee meets Thursday 6/8/23 at 7 pm in Parish Office Conf Rm 1
General Pastoral Council Meeting #12 Thursday,6/15/23 Parish Hall

Opening Prayer – Anne Dols **Minutes Approval 2/23/23 Meeting** Barb Woods moved for approval, seconded by Anne Dols. No opposition.

PROCEEDINGS

1. COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Written reports were distributed before the meeting. See “Organization Reports for Apr 2023 Meeting.pdf” These upcoming items were shared at the meeting:

#	Organization/Group	Coming up
E	Pastoral Care	Anne Dols reported that Deacon David is visiting new people as well as homebound and ill.
G	Pro Life	Angela reported that this group is disbanding. After 10 years of dedicated service to the group, Rachel Egan has relinquished the leader role, and no one has stepped up.
I	STARS	Father Raphael met with members of STARS 4/19 about revitalizing.
J	Fellowship with Friends	Mothers Day 5/14 and Fathers Day 6/18 will NOT have Fellowship with Friends

2. **Strategic Pastoral Visioning Update** – Mary McConville reported that the Strategic Visioning Team is conducting a Survey in preparation for Listening Sessions next month, facilitated by Pat



ST. THERESA PASTORAL COUNCIL

Come Back to Me with All Your Heart

Trout. There were questions about the Assessment Report included in the Group Report concerning vital activities that were not mentioned, especially Faith Formation for Pre-K to 5th grade and the funeral lunches. The liaisons were asked to critique design for an illustration of the parish mission that provided great suggestions. The candidates are attached to the minutes. Mary McConville will rework the one that had arrows converging to put the Eucharist center top.

3. Ideas for 2024 Theme -

- Pray Together > Serve Together > Celebrate Together
- Live the Gospel
- All Are Welcome
- We are a Beautiful People

Timetable for new theme discussed:

Identify a graphic artist to design the visual (Jean Hemmer will talk to Emily Melcher about possibilities)

Confirm when to introduce the new slogan: beginning of Advent? 1/1/24? Other?

Decide on the slogan in June so artist can do artwork for Pastoral Council approval

Share slogan with groups July 1 so they will know what's coming

Produce the banners 4 weeks before introduction date.

4. Lessons Learned with Come Back to Me With All Your Heart theme

- a. Make a bigger sign for the exterior posting
- b. Use larger font to make it more readable
- c. Promote it more energetically
- d. Incorporate it in more efforts

5. Nominations for Pastoral Council Executive Committee

- a. Seek 3 more people to serve on the Executive Council which meets regularly to be a centralized clearing house for Pastoral leadership matters, produce the General meeting agenda, monitor progress on Council. Currently, Pat Trout, Jean Hemmer, Andrew Gross & Angela Wolfe are on it. Mary McConville serves as the recording secretary which is a service role.
- b. Send names to Pat Trout of likely candidates and he will give to Father.

6. Music Event in Colby Park

Bill Mogolov of Opus Taylor band offered to do a concert at Colby Park at no cost to the parish.

The only limitations are: no alcohol, no fundraising and promise to promote the event. He said Fr Raphael is welcome to do a song or two.

The Council accepted the opportunity, and Anne D, Jean H, and Jan S formed a concert committee. Suggested dates were June 11 or July 2 -16.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Committee planning meeting about concert & theme 5/4/23









Executive Committee Agenda Meeting 6/8/23

General Pastoral Council Meeting #123 Thursday, June 15, 2023 Parish Hall

Attachments: Organization Reports for Apr 2023 Meeting.pdf & Email from Bill Mogolov
Draft Submitted by Mary McConville 5/4/2023

Table of Contents for Organization Reports

Pastoral Council Meeting # 11 April 20, 2023

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 -  [Catholic Circle of Faith House Build 2023](#)
 -  [Goods Drive for Homeless 2023](#)
- ▼  [Pastoral Strategic Visioning Report to St Theresa Pastoral Council April, 2023](#)
- >  [Visioning Theme Assessment Reports Feb 23.pdf](#)

Adult Faith Formation Report

April 17, 2023

Study Groups: *The Book of Romans* will start April 24-25 followed by Christian movies during the summer.

I continue to attend webinars on Divine Renovation. Also, trying to keep up with the Eucharistic Revival material.

Lunch and Learn:

March was Sarah Borzo on recycling. The presentation was great!

April was Holy Week.

May will be Pietra, a revised yoga for Catholics, with Joy Kerkhoff Nobles.

Cards & Games continues to be on the fourth Wednesday from 1-3pm. Numbers are increasing.

Newsletter: Next newsletter will be mid-May. The deadline for articles will be May 17.

Lenten Events:

Our mini-retreat in March was with Fr. Tim Fitzgerald. Forty people attended and had great reviews.

The special prayer service on Palm Sunday, April 2, using the “Last Words of Christ” was attended by approximately 60 people. It is online for people if they still wish to see it.

Fr. Reed Flood gave a talk on March 30 at 6:30 on Lent and the Eucharist. Approximately 75 people attended. It too is online for people to see.

Lenten materials have been out and went well.

Also, playlists were placed in the blasts each week. On those playlists were links to The Chosen, Formed reflections, Brother Francis clips on Lent for children, hymns, scripture reflections and more. I hope people are using them.

The Divine Mercy Novena, which began on Good Friday, was made available on Palm Sunday.

RCIA: We have no candidates this year so the team is meeting to regroup and rebuild. The regrouping will be a change to include the entire parish in the RCIA process. We will be looking for sponsoring households, including singles, couples, and retired couples to befriend those inquiring. We are also looking into other programs and materials available for faith formation.

The **Ministry Scheduler Pro** schedule through the end of May is online. Wine has returned, if we have enough ministers. The wine choice has been changed to Franzia Zinfandel.

Visioning:

The Faith Formation Council began talking about visioning.

1. They want to continue the FF Council. They feel they have made a difference and have a purpose to help the parish. The FF Team agrees and values their input.
2. In the future they would like to see more hands on items. Many took things home or took things to their grandchildren/families.
3. RCIA will regroup and become a more entire parish process.
4. There seems to be a need for more evening reflections/speakers, preferably seasonal, for people to be engaged in the faith.
5. Request has been made to have the Advent/Lenten mini-retreats in the evening or weekend for those who work.
6. Ministry training needs to be a set cycle for the year (placed on the calendar for the year) so people know when training times are. Youth needs to included.
7. Beginning in August, we need to have an emphasis on the Eucharist. This might include book studies, handouts, two or three day mission, Eucharistic study programs on the weekend as well as sharing materials with groups already in existence.
8. Try to increase use of the parish library which was requested at the last visioning time.
9. There is a need to improve hospitality and welcoming, including greeters at church, for newcomers and visitors.

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Woods

Wednesday Faith Formation (WFF) Classes continue through May 10th.

3/1 Wednesday Faith Formation Reconciliation Service 6:30-8:30pm, 5 priests, babysitting service utilized.

3/8 Fifth grade students and families served dinner at Central Iowa Shelter & Services under the supervision of Catechist, Katie Wainwright. Students unable to attend CISS assisted in other WFF classrooms.

3/29 Fourth grade students led Stations of the Cross for all classes and families. Thanks to Catechists Melissa Havig & Amiee Negrete for organizing this meaningful Lenten service for our WFF families. Melissa Havig commented that this year had the largest number of participants.

Fifth grade will join middle school for the remaining April classes.

WFF families hosted fellowship & friends for the February 5th Masses. Our next service will be July 2nd, then December 3rd.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Concludes April 30th Teens have faithfully assisted with supervision and liturgical roles. Younger children also assist with liturgical roles. Volunteer leaders are needed for next year which will resume in September.

Altar Server Training Many students are very excited to become altar servers. Training has not yet resumed.

Professional Development Recent training includes formation on ministering to families who have members with disabilities. We also engaged with the Diocesan Director of Catholic Charities to learn how to better minister to those with mental illness.

4/20 CPR training for parish staff by Maria Calhoun

Sacraments

4/2 RCIA for children, 4th & 5th grade students preparing for baptism and First Eucharist

4/26 **First Eucharist Learning Centers** Parish Hall for about 1.5 hours during 3:30-7:30pm
Babysitting available

5/7 **First Eucharist Mass** 12:15 pm, photography offered free of charge by Chelsea Dellaca

Baptisms Seven scheduled in April & May for children ages 5-11

Vacation Bible School Confirmed June 27-30, Volunteer training on June 26th. Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist will participate. St. Theresa is partnering with St. Augustin Parish again this year

Additional Parish Activities to Assist with Lenten/Holy Week Services

3/27 met with parish staff to continue planning Holy Week Services

3/30 Fr. Reed Flood presentation on pilgrimage and God's grace, babysitting offered

3/31 Stations of the Cross at 5:00pm

4/1 decorating the church for Palm Sunday

4/2 assisted with The Seven Last Words of Christ Meditation, babysitting offered

4/4 met with parish staff to continue planning Holy Week Services

4/6 Holy Thursday Mass preparations

4/7 decorating for Good Friday Services

4/8 decorating for Easter Vigil

Respectfully submitted 4/6/2023,

Jane Ann Becicka, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator

REPORTING: PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Plans & Goals based on June 2022 Brainstorming ideas :
consistent bulletin/newsletter education on P & J events for volunteers. Servers needed for 8th of the month meal at CISS, workers needed on summer Habitat CCOF, and awareness of fair trade continues.

2. At least **one name** for potential Pastoral Council membership

No names were given by the P & J members

3. **Idea(s)** for 2024 Pastoral Theme

FEEDBACK: 2 members thought to keep same theme

3 members reported that any of the Beatitudes would be a good theme

1. Social events: 4th Sunday coffee sales and Easter fair trade items. All items from Ghana were sold. Awareness increased as parishioners were asking how to order fair trade in the future.

2. Service: CISS meal – monthly serving up to 225 people, 225 in March and April, Catholic Charities Family Shelter meal- 4th Friday of the month serving up to 10 families, Fair Trade sales- last weekend of the month, DMARC collection - monthly, Family Promise as needed monthly meal or overnight stay

3. Other past news from your organization: mention of Diocese gender policy. Would be interested to know what is planned for the education of the parish on this subject.

Upcoming service:

Micah Purcell, a parishioner and intern at Exemplar care with Central Iowa Shelter and Services asked for support for a personal care drive for her clients in May. (attachment)

Catholic Circle of Faith for Habitat for Humanity starts work dates this May. (attachment)

CCOF Build at 1601 21st Street in Des Moines
(Note: The tasks are generalized, and subject to change!)

May 24th – Capping (*registration closes Monday, May 15th*)

May 31st – Standing Walls or Plating (*registration closes Monday, 22nd*)

June 1st - Top Plating or Standing Trusses (*registration closes Monday, May 22nd*)

June 7th – Fascia Roof Sheathing (*registration closes Monday, May 29th*)
These slots have been reserved by the St. Francis Knights of Columbus.

June 10th – Roof Sheathing (*registration closes Monday, May 29th*)

July 26th– Interior Paint or Trim/Flooring (*registration closes Monday, July 17th*)

August 2nd – Trim/ Flooring/Painting (*registration closes Monday, July 24th*)

August 5th - Trim/Flooring/Cabinets/Paint (*registration closes Monday, July 24th*)

August 9th– Trim/Flooring/Cabinets/Paint (*registration closes Monday, July 24th*)

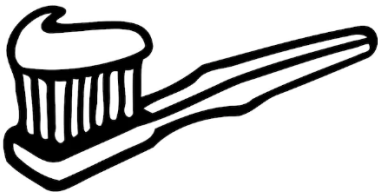
August 12th – Trim/Flooring/Appliances/Finishes (*registration closes Monday, July 31st*)

Goods Drive for Homeless Patients

***please bring items to Mass the weekend of May 6th and 7th

Items needed:

1. Feminine products
2. Deodorant
3. Toothbrush/toothpaste
4. Pill organizers
5. Lotion/hand sanitizer



shutterstock.com - 56785243

All items will go directly to the patients at Exemplar Care (located next to the Central Iowa Shelter downtown)

Pastoral Strategic Visioning Report to St Theresa Pastoral Council April, 2023

The Pastoral Strategic Visioning Core Team continues work on a gathering input for preparation of a Five Year Strategic Plan (2024-2029). They began with a look at current activities in parish life through the lens of the themes identified by the Diocesan strategic visioning work in 2021-22. This Theme Assessment demonstrated the wide range of liturgy, programs, events, activities and effort put forth by the St Theresa community.

A general Work Plan was developed in March, and work on adding details is underway. Amy Williams will lead the team in having listening and planning sessions this year.

A parish-wide survey is being circulated in April to seek wide response about challenges facing St. Theresa Parish. Results will be shared in May.

Theme Assessments Reports

February 2023 for the St Theresa Parish
Strategic Visioning Core Team

- 1. Inspire our Youth and Young Adults - Jeanne
- 2. Invite and Welcome People to Community - Mary
- 3. Celebrate the Eucharist - Jeanne
- 4. Offer Meaningful Adult Faith Formation - Tricia
- 5. Accompany and Support Families - Deacon David
- 6. Address the Polarization in Today's World - Andrew
- 7. Communicate and Apply Catholic Social Teaching - Bob
- 8. Assist the Poor and Refugees - Pat
- 9. Evangelization Outreach - Deacon David
- List of Items in Reports
- List of Areas for Interest for New Members Registering

THEME 1

Inspire Our Youth
and Young Adults

Jeanne Thill

INSPIRING OUR YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

CONTACT: Megs

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?	HOW MANY YEARS?	WHO LEADS/ HOW LONG?	SUGGESTIONS?
<p>NCYC Fundraising some service/direct requests</p>	<p>10 years 13 years</p>	<p>Megs Megs</p>	<p>funding opportunities want more participation/ but often a \$\$\$ issue</p>
<p>Social events for middle school & High school</p>	<p>2 years/ monthly</p>	<p>Megs/team</p>	<p>haven't recovered from COVID</p>
<p>Mission trips for high school Retreat and service format</p>	<p>2 years/ summer</p>	<p>Megs/team</p>	<p>assurance of stress caused by overnights</p>
<p>Mission trips for middle school local service trips Formation 6-8 grade: EDGE 3x month 9-12 grade: Lifeteen 2 x month 9-12 grade: Confirmation 1x month</p>	<p>10 years</p>		<p>more collaboration w/ other parishes need consistency in guidelines</p>
<p>Faith in Action Spring mission trip/overnight High school students</p>	<p>12 years</p>		
<p>Relational Ministry w/ young people As time needed to build trust/relationships</p>			<p>need help w/ paperwork</p>
<p>Youth Mass</p>		<p>Megs & Jane Ann</p>	<p>working together</p>
<p>Summer events: 8 weeks on Wednesday; events at Different parishes Middle school: Adventureland Dodgeball Trivia Tie Blankets</p>			<p>Better communication</p>

THEME 2

Invite and Welcome People to Community

Mary McConville

What are we doing

Calling newcomers from names provided by parish secretary.

(5 years)

Giving gift bags (2 years)

How successful have we been

"OK"

See survey of Welcome Committee members.

THEME 3

Celebrate the
Eucharist

Jeanne Thill

CELEBRATE EUCHARIST

CONTACT: Barb Woods

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?	HOW MANY YEARS?	WHO LEADS/ HOW LONG?	SUGGESTIONS?
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Daily Mass, 6:30 am	years		
Wed/Thurs night Mass, 5:45 pm	this year		
Sunday night, 'last change' Mass, 4:30 pm	years		
School Mass on Fridays, during school year	years		
Adoration, 1-hour on Tuesday evenings	4 years		
First Friday Adoration, all day	1 year		
Eucharistic Miracles Banners	1 time event		
Teaching Mass	1 time event		
Eucharist for homebound	> 10 years		
RCIA has retreat including Adoration			
Parents of 1 st Communion watch Veil Removed			
Occasional Adoration by:			
STARsman			
Middle School/Intermediate			
WFF/Youth Group			

Theme 4

Offer Meaningful
Adult Faith Formation

- Tricia Pieteg

Theme 4: Offer Meaningful Adult Faith Formation

Tricia Pieteg spoke with Barb Woods, Director of Adult Faith Formation,

12/13/22 Barb provided me with the following list of Adult Faith Formation Tasks:

1. Study groups: Monday AM & PM, Tuesday PM, Tuesday AM on Zoom
2. Lunch & Learn: 1st Thursday of the month
3. Cards & Games: 4th Wednesday of the month
4. Advent & Lenten Materials: Seasonal take home packets (collaborate with Faith Formation Team)
5. Handouts at the entrances to the Church
6. Advent and Lenten Mini-retreats
7. Quarterly newsletter
8. RCIA (She has been doing this since 1987, no one in RCIA this year)
9. Baptismal Preparation Session Team
10. Materials for reflection at First Friday Adoration
11. Occasional Events:
 - Eucharistic Banner display
 - Special evenings with Fr. Raphael
 - Fr. Tom McCarthy retreat
 - Fr. Jim Sichko Retreat
 - Books for free: i.e. Holy Moments
12. Living with Christ & Living Faith Booklets
13. Library (This needs to be organized & updated)
14. Information packets to school staff
15. Resource to parishioners with in-home study groups
16. Attend Faith Formation Council Meetings as well as Pastoral Council Meetings

We also discussed these observations:

1. Attendance at Church seems to be back to pre-covid numbers, but volunteerism is not.
2. Help to fill Liturgical roles has decreased, parishioners are hesitant to commit.
3. Study groups are back to normal numbers with small gains.

I asked Barb if there was anything she needed to help her be more successful in her role, she brought up the idea of a stipend for a part-time Faith Formation secretary.

Theme 5

Accompany and Support
Families

Theme 9

Reach Out and Evangelize

by

Deacon David Schmidt

THEME 5: Accompany and Support Families

What are we doing now?

- Sacramental prep, regular and catch-up. [Always]
- Care packages for families in time of trial (Care package generally consists of encouraging note, drink and snack) [10+ years]
- College student care packages (Generally a note and assorted individually packaged candy). [9 years]
- Meet with individuals/families on as needed basis for informal counseling, active listening and reflection. [Always]
- Prayer Chain. [Always]
- Grief Ministry groups (2x per year) [4 years]
- Food Pantry. [6+ years]
- Back Pack Program. [9 years]
- Fall Work Day. [20+ years]
- St. Vincent DePaul home visits [2 years]
- Ad hoc assistance [Always]

How long have we been doing it?

Approximate time in [brackets] above.

How successful have we been?

That is a difficult question to answer with a strong degree of certainty due to the various types of support and accompaniment we have provided. Generally it seems we have done well in supporting families, although it seems that the support often is given in times of crisis. What might be done to accompany and support families during their more regular course of affairs?

THEME 9: Evangelization Outreach

What are we doing now?

Livestreaming the Mass [2 years]

Food Pantry [6+ years]

Parish Website [8 years]

???

How long have we been doing it?

Approximate time in [brackets] above.

How successful have we been?

Not very well, especially if evangelization is strictly defined as sharing the Gospel message of salvation from a Catholic perspective. In fairness, Catholics are typically not very comfortable with the term “evangelization.” Often it is something seen for our Protestant brothers and sisters to do and not for us. Certainly we have room for growth and improvement.

THEME 6

Address the Polarization in Today's World

Andrew Gross

This topic does not lend itself of the format of
What are we doing? For how long? Led by?
Suggestions?

Andrew will explain at the meeting what he learned in
working on this.

Theme 8

Assist the Poor and
Refugees

by Pat Trout

Parish activities involving people outside of our parish

Fall Cleanup project. This is actually an activity by and for parishioners but is not directly religious.

This year 45 households were helped by this project headed by Sergio Loch and aided by Tim Dempsey, Bob & Ed Downey. The people helped were very grateful but more could be helped if more volunteers were available.

St Theresa parish in Togo Africa. This project is about 20 years old and has grown over the years. We helped build a church and a school and now offer scholarships to students from preK to high school. At this point the failure rate for school kids is 60%. This is largely due to the kids often walking up to 5 miles to get to school and then have to walk home for lunch. Consequently, many don't return to school after lunch. Our parish has raised money to create a lunch facility where the school could provide lunch for everyone.

Sergio is also involved in two other programs outside our parish; 1 Alpha is a 10 week program focusing on deepening our faith and consists of a supper, a speaker and then small group discussion. He found it very worthwhile but it takes a great deal of personal resources. 2 Just Faith is a 12 week again focusing on deepening one's faith.

Sergio is also involved in RCIA. I'm sure RCIA will be covered by someone else in our group but he had an interesting observation. The group running the program but it's difficult to attract someone to commit o nine months. Also in his experience in Alpha he met several men who are former Catholics but had to leave the church after a divorce and a second marriage.

Social Concerns and Peace and Justice

In the 1980's the parish sponsored Vietnamese refugees and in the 1990's we sponsored African refugees. Many of those refugees are still in our parish.

Several years ago, Churches United started housing the homeless downtown in various churches and St Theresa parish has been a part of that. Over the years they found a building for the homeless and recently Bill Knapp donated land for a new building and now they have a great facility for the homeless. St Theresa feeds the homeless there on the 8th of every month. It started out with about 60 people and has grown to 225.

Emergency Catholic Charities House at 1535 11th houses 10 families. Jo Downey coordinates feeding those families on the 4th Friday of every month.

Str Theresa house is one the parish purchased several years ago to hose immigrants and others in need of temporary housing. Over the years managing the house became a lot of work so the parish worked with Anawim, a non-profit that manages properties around the metro and offers heavily subsidized rent to people in need. It's empty at this time and the parish in trying to decide what to do with it.

Fair trade products sales are another project of the social concerns committee. The objective is to insure the actual producers of the products get a fair price for their goods. Sales have boomed since Fr Raphael has become their salesman.

1 Inspire Our Youth / Young Adults	22	Jeanne Thill
2 Invite and Welcome People	6	Mary McConville
3 Celebrate Eucharist	15	Jeanne Thill
4 Offer Meaningful Adult Faith Formation	21	Tricia Pieteg
5 Accompany and Support Families	11	Deacon David
6 Address the Polarization in Today's World		Andrew Gross
7 Communicate and Apply Catholic Social Teaching		Bob Lawler
8 Assist the Poor and Refugees	8	Pat Trout
9 Evangelization Outreach	3	Dea
Grand Total	93	

New Member Registration Form Stewardship Time and Talent Areas of Interest

<p>Liturgical Worship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Lector <input type="checkbox"/> Eucharistic Minister <input type="checkbox"/> Usher <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter <input type="checkbox"/> Server (4th grade & Up) <input type="checkbox"/> Sacristan <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Choir Member <input type="checkbox"/> Teen Choir Member <input type="checkbox"/> Folk Choir Member <input type="checkbox"/> Cantor/Song Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Choir <input type="checkbox"/> Organist <input type="checkbox"/> Pianist <input type="checkbox"/> Guitarist <input type="checkbox"/> Other Instrument (Specify) <p>RCIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Partner <input type="checkbox"/> Host <input type="checkbox"/> Share my faith story to inquirers <input type="checkbox"/> Inquiry to become Catholic <p>Pastoral Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Companion Minister <input type="checkbox"/> Eucharist to Homebound <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Chain Participant <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Warrior <input type="checkbox"/> Drivers 	<p>Faith Formation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School 8:30 am Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Liturgy of the Word <input type="checkbox"/> 10:30 Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers—Pre-K - 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Group (6-12) <input type="checkbox"/> Chaperone <input type="checkbox"/> Office Volunteers <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Bible School <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Faith Formation <input type="checkbox"/> Scripture study/prayer <input type="checkbox"/> Faith-Sharing Group <input type="checkbox"/> Faith Formation Council <p>Parish Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Parish Office Volunteers <input type="checkbox"/> Provide childcare at parish events <input type="checkbox"/> St. Vincent de Paul <input type="checkbox"/> Knights of Columbus <input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Life Committee <input type="checkbox"/> STARS (St. Theresa Altar & Rosary) <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee & Donuts <input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Luncheons <input type="checkbox"/> Sell SCRIP after Masses <p>* Please watch the bulletin or parish emails for opportunities to volunteer</p>	<p>Maintenance & Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> General Maintenance <input type="checkbox"/> Assist with snow removal <input type="checkbox"/> Groundskeeping <input type="checkbox"/> Roofing <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Work/Welding <input type="checkbox"/> Paving/Cement <p>Social Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless Meals for CISS <input type="checkbox"/> DMARC 3rd Sun. Food Pantry <input type="checkbox"/> 5th Sunday Personal Pantry <input type="checkbox"/> Global Coffee Project <input type="checkbox"/> First Fruits <input type="checkbox"/> AMOS <input type="checkbox"/> St. Theresa Food Pantry <p>St. Theresa Elementary School: Please contact the school office at 515-277-0178 to discuss volunteer opportunities</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Updated 9/2020</p>
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Inid	WHAT ARE YOU DOING?	Since	Who leads	how long
100	1 Inspire Our Youth / Young Adults			
101	NCYC	10 years	Megs	
102	Fundraising	13 years	Megs	
103	Social events for middle school &	2 years/	Megs/team	
104	High school	monthly		
105	Mission trips for high school	2 years/	Megs/team	
106	Retreat and service format	summer	Megs/team	
107	Mission trips for middle school	10 years	Megs/team	
108	Formation		Megs/team	
109	6-8 grade: EDGE 3x month		Megs/team	
110	9-12 grade: Lifeteen 2 x month		Megs/team	
111	9-12 grade: Confirmation 1x month		Megs/team	
112	Faith in Action	12 years	Megs/team	
113	Spring mission trip/overnight		Megs/team	
114	High school students		Megs/team	
115	Relational Ministry w/ young people		Megs/team	
116	As time needed to build trust/relationships		Megs/team	
117	Youth Mass		Megs & Jane Ann	
118	Summer events:		Megs/team	
119	8 weeks on Wednesday; events at		Megs/team	
120	Different parishes		Megs/team	
121	Middle school:		Megs/team	
122	Adventureland		Megs/team	
123	Dodgeball		Megs/team	
124	Trivia		Megs/team	
125	Tie Blankets		Megs/team	
200	2 Invite and Welcome People			
201	Phone call to newcomers		Kay Cross	
202	Gift bag for newcomers		Committee	
203	Sacramental boxes (STARS)		STARS	
204	Fellowship with Friends (Coffee & Donuts)		Jean Hemmer	
205	Back to School Night		Principal	
206	Parish Picnic		Jean Hemmer	
300	3 Celebrate Eucharist			
301	Daily Mass, 6:30 am years	many		
302	Wed/Thurs night Mass, 5:45 pm this year	2022		
303	Sunday night, 'last change' Mass, 4:30 pm year	years		
304	School Mass on Fridays, during school year	years		
305	Adoration, 1-hour on Tuesday evenings 4 years	2019		
306	First Friday Adoration, all day 1 year	2022		
307	Eucharistic Miracles Banners 1 time event	2022		
308	Teaching Mass 1 time event	2022		

309	Eucharist for homebound > 10 years	years		
310	RCIA has retreat including Adoration			
311	Parents of 1st Communion watch Veil Removed	2019		
312	Occasional Adoration by:			
313	STARS			
314	Middle School/Intermediate			
315	WFF/Youth Group			
401	1. Study groups: Monday AM & PM, Tuesday PM, Tuesday		Barb Woods	
402	2. Lunch & Learn: 1st Thursday of the month		Barb Woods	
403	3. Cards & Games: 4th Wednesday of the month		Barb Woods	
404	4. Advent & Lenten Materials: Seasonal take home packets		Barb Woods	
405	5. Handouts at the entrances to the Church		Barb Woods	
406	6. Advent and Lenten Mini-retreats		Barb Woods	
407	7. Quarterly newsletter		Barb Woods	
408	8. RCIA (She has been doing this since 1987, no one in RC		Barb Woods & Team	
409	9. Baptismal Preparation Session Team		Barb Woods	
410	10. Materials for reflection at First Friday Adoration		Barb Woods	
411	11. Occasional Events:		Barb Woods	
412	· Eucharistic Banner display		Barb Woods	
413	· Special evenings with Fr. Raphael		Barb Woods	
414	· Fr. Tom McCarthy retreat		Barb Woods	
415	· Fr. Jim Sichko Retreat		Barb Woods	
416	· Books for free: i.e. Holy Moments		Barb Woods	
417	12. Living with Christ & Living Faith Booklets		Barb Woods	
418	13. Library (This needs to be organized & updated)		Barb Woods	
419	14. Information packets to school staff		Barb Woods	
420	15. Resource to parishioners with in-home study groups		Barb Woods	
421	16. Attend Faith Formation Council Meetings as well as Pas		Barb Woods	
500	5 Accompany and Support Families			
501	· Sacramental prep, regular and catch-up. [Always]		Jane Ann	
502	· Care packages for families in time of trial (Care package generally consists of encou			
503	· College student care packages (Generally a note and		Megs	
504	· Meet with individuals/families on as needed basis for		Deacon David, Father	
505	· Prayer Chain. [Always]		Barb Woods	
506	· Grief Ministry groups (2x per year) [4 years]		Deacon David	
507	· Food Pantry. [6+ years]		McClellands	
508	· Back Pack Program. [9 years]		Donna Hueholt	
509	· Fall Work Day. [20+ years]		Sergio Loch Paul Chicoine	
510	· St. Vincent DePaul home visits [2 years]		SVDP	
511	· Ad hoc assistance [Always]			
600	6 Address the Polarization in Today's World			
700	7 Communicate and Apply Catholic Social Teaching			

800	8 Assist the Poor and Refugees			
801	Fall Cleanup project		Sergio Loch	
802	Sister Parish in Togo		Susan Malloy	
803	RCIA		Team	
804	Refugee settlement help	1980s - 90s - today		
805	Central Iowa Shelter (Churches United)	1980s		
806	St. Joseph Shelter on 11th	1990s		
807	St Theresa House			
808	Fair Trade Product Sales			
900	9 Evangelization Outreach			
901	<u>Livestreaming the Mass [2 years]</u>		Tracy Kendzora	
902	<u>Food Pantry [6+ years]</u>		McClellands	
903	<u>Parish Website [8 years]</u>		Tracy Kendzora	
1001	Thursday evening Rosary - STARS		Rita Green	
1002	Votive Candles Maintenance STARS		Pat Willis	
1003	Holy Water Fount Cleaning STARS		Marilyn Sackett	
1004	Altar Linens STARS		Ann Larew & Gert Stempflug	
1005	Plant Care STARS		Anne Dols	
1006	Wash altar server cassocks		Denise Gross	
1007	Medical Goods Lending Library		Deacon David	

Pastoral Care Report: April 19, 2023

- Phone calls made to homebound parishioners who receive holiday cards from the students to get feedback. All want to continue getting the cards. Was able to update parish records with new phone numbers or addresses.
- Hand delivered St. Theresa Parish Pastoral Strategy Survey #1 to homebound parishioners to capture their input.
- Preparing for upcoming Mass of Anointing
- Assisting with monthly Masses at Calvin Community Retirement Center
- Ongoing visits to homebound parishioners and those in rehab and long term care facilities.
- Fr. Daniel Oboagye Adjei assisting on home visits, confessions and blessings on Thursdays.
- Planning to thin Medical Equipment Lending Library inventory and donate excess items to Easter Seals.
- Visiting newly registered parishioners as requested.
- Ongoing funerals with possible visitations, luncheons and committals.
- Ongoing mailing of Stephen Ministry grief booklets.

Upcoming events:

5/9/23 – 6/6/23: Grieving with Great Hope grief support groups, Tuesdays, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

4/27/23: Mass of Anointing, Thursday, 10:30 am

10/28/23: Mass of Remembrance, Saturday, 10:30 am

Respectfully submitted, Deacon David Schmidt