

**ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 16, 2023**

**AT-LARGE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Lisa Alt, Mikey Disbennett, Bridget Eichhold, Mike Essen, Alan Gerken, Greg Hardig, Karen Kovacs, Brian Linnemann, Nick Roos, Kris Schoettmer

**AT-LARGE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Lori Bernard, Brian Schmutte

**CLERGY IN ATTENDANCE:** Fr. David Tran, Fr. Tom Mannebach

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Bob Buchman, Donna Frazee, Rick Fulks, Angie Heisel

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-President Nick Roos

**OPENING PRAYER:** Bridget Eichhold

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

Fr. David Tran, Mikey Disbennett, Bridget Eichhold, Mike Essen, and Alan Gerken were introduced and welcomed to Pastoral Council (PC). The new at-large members were asked to send a head shot and their phone number/email to Jeanne Clifton in the Parish Office.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

The June 2023 PC meeting minutes were not reviewed this evening. They will be reviewed and approved with the August 2023 meeting minutes at the September PC meeting.

**FESTIVAL UPDATE:**

Chairman Bub Buchman reported on IggyFest 2023 progress. The Festival will take place August 25-27. Volunteers are still needed, especially in the Food Booth, which currently has about 50% of its spots filled. There will be no changes to the beer supply; the same roster available last year will be served again this year. Jen Smith is taking over as the new Cash Manager. Green Township Police will be providing Security this year, with a full complement plus 2 Cheviot officers. Sponsorships are at a record high this year, with \$48,000 already sold.

**SCHOOL UPDATE:**

Principal Angie Heisel reported on planning for the 2023-24 school year, which begins on 8/30.

**1) EdChoice Expansion Scholarship:** As of July 2023, all Ohio students who are not receiving another state scholarship (i.e., Peterson, Autism, etc.) are eligible to receive the Ohio EdChoice Expansion Scholarship. Awards vary and are based on the Adjusted Gross Income of a family's household. Families will need to submit the completed application form to the school office, as well as create an OH|ID online account to have their income information verified in the EdChoice system. Due to the large number of applications (over 600 so far), the school has set a deadline of September 1 for families to submit an application, in order to ensure that all applications can be processed and sent to the state before the state deadline of October 14.

There are no plans to raise tuition at this time. However, the school's costs to process all of the new applications and administer the expanded program going forward will be

substantial. Discussions are underway to discern avenues for recouping those administrative costs.

- 2) **Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGO) and State Tax Credits:** Another option available to families is taking advantage of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's (AOC) status as a State of Ohio Scholarship Granting Organization. Donations made to AOC schools, or any other state-certified SGO, can be a state tax write-off in Ohio. Donating to an SGO allows Ohio residents who owe state tax to claim a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of up to \$750 per individual, or up to \$1,500 per couple (each spouse has to make a separate donation of up to \$750 to qualify). This credit became available in 2021 but is not widely known.

#### **FINANCE UPDATE:**

Rick Fulks, Finance Council (FC) chairman, made a brief financial report.

- 1) **Meeting of PC/FC Leadership:** PC/FC leadership met with Fr. Mannebach to discuss ways both councils can communicate and work together more effectively in the coming service year. PC operates to set the overall vision/direction and to make decisions; FC operates in an advisory capacity to help PC achieve its goals. To further timely communication, Rick Fulks plans to attend PC's monthly meetings going forward.

- 2) **Financial Report:**

- a) **FYE 2023:**

1. **Church:** (\$41,000) loss; but better than plan by \$200,000
2. **School:** (\$185, 671) loss; but better than plan by \$183,000
3. **Combined Campus:** (\$226,671) total loss

- b) **FY 2024 Budget:**

1. **Church:** (\$37,080) loss
2. **School:** (\$356,415) loss
3. **Combined Campus:** (\$393,495) total loss

Sunday collections FYE 2023 missed plan by approximately \$163,000, and were worse than FYE 2022 by approximately \$140,000 (after adjusting FY 22 lower by \$200,000 to account for a one-time donation by a parishioner).

- 3) **Trends and Offertory Enhancement Programs:** PC asked if FC could put together a trending analysis of Sunday collections over the last 10 years, as well as goal targets for healthy collection income. It was also suggested that the parish could look into companies that provide offertory enhancement programming.

#### **PARISH PRIORITIES 2023/24 DISCUSSION:**

- 1) **First Priority—Beacons of Light (BOL) Staff Restructuring:** We are beginning the next year of the multi-year AOC parish restructuring program called Beacons of Light. The BOL process calls for a coordinated plan to address 3 major ministries/functions of a parish, in the areas of Evangelization, Stewardship, and Worship. Since St. Ignatius Parish is a Family-of-One (i.e., not grouped with any other parishes) we have a bit more flexibility in how we approach staffing to address those critical functions. The current priority is to create 4 positions, which would be filled from within or by new hires:

- Director of Finance & Administration (ideally this person would have HR and Facilities responsibility)

**APPROVED AT THE 09/15/23 MEETING**

- Director of Worship and Music
- Director of Evangelization & Outreach
- Director of Faith Formation

All of these positions have been put into the 2024 Budget. Once job descriptions have been finalized, current staff will be invited to apply.

No time limit has been set yet for the completion of this priority.

- 2) Second Priority—Workshop on Pastoral Priorities/Parish Mission:** Once the 4 staff director positions have been filled, the next step is to hold a workshop, conducted by a professional facilitator, to establish pastoral priorities and to update the parish's mission statement.
- 3) Third Priority—Identify Existing Commissions/Ministries/Groups and Their Leadership:** We need to identify the existing parish commissions, ministries and groups and get contact information for their leaders. Once this is accomplished, PC President will send an email inviting leaders to every PC meeting and expressing the need for each group to be represented at PC meetings.
- 4) Homework:** In an effort to understand the direction of the church and moving forward with BOC, PC members are asked to read and understand the focus of the document, "The Pastoral Conversion of the Parish Community in the Service of the Evangelizing Mission of the Church," published by the Vatican Congregation for the Clergy:  
<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/07/20/200720a.html#>  
This will be a guide for our priorities in 2023/24.

**PASTOR'S COMMENTS:**

**Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Results for the Parish:** The parish's aggregate results on the DMI conducted in January 2023 were published in the August 6 bulletin:

<https://bulletins.discovermass.com/download.php?bulletin=gv6W9WPFKb%2BAd4FHJ7oMrdFS luc5hoC449XMqXnumP53phCg1XnFi8Yx22crnkDKs3NVc5n5SvVMtc6c9WGPBmFjGwujxPs7GEv vPk7E4Qc%3D>

Fr. Mannebach briefly reported on these results this evening.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Mikey Disbennett

**NEXT MEETING:** September 2023, date TBD, but it will be a Wednesday evening, at 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Frazee  
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary