



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

*Leading People to Jesus Through Worship, Community, Service and Devotion to Mary*

### **Immaculate Conception Parish Pastoral Council Meeting November 13, 2024**

Rich Viertel called the Parish Council meeting to order at 7:38pm. Kendra Girardot led the members in an opening prayer.

Attendees: Rich Viertel, Kendra Girardot, Janet Wilks, David Lyons, Patty Conway, Deacon Chris Campbell, Fr. Jerry Rodenfels, Julie Clemens, and Dan Costello (guest). Not present: Fr. Matt Hoover, Principal Colleen Kent, Max Herath and Paula Mong.

General Opening Comments: Fr. Jerry apprised council members that Fr. Matt's sabbatical is ending, and several IC staff have traveled to visit him in Rome before his return. Fr. Matt will preside over IC mass on Saturday, 11/30.

#### **Announcements – Rich Viertel**

- **Giving Tuesday - Nominations & Recipient Selection Update:** The Brian Muha Foundation has been selected as IC's Giving Tuesday recipient. Parishioners will make their contributions through the parish and a lump sum donation will be given to the Foundation. Dan Costello will invite a spokesperson from the Foundation to speak during masses on 11/30 and 12/1. (Dan volunteered to speak on its behalf if a representative is unable to attend because of Thanksgiving.) Information about the Foundation will also be shared in mass announcements and the bulletin. Giving Tuesday is on 12/3.
- **Fall 2024 Faith Formation Activities (see IC bulletin):** Rich brought council members' attention to the IC bulletin and identified the numerous activities available for parishioners.
- **New Parishioner Welcome Packet contents:** Rich will obtain a sample of the New Parishioner Welcome Packet from IC staff to share with council members.

#### **Next Up:**

- **Triduum Planning – Dec 8-10, 2024:**
  - December 8<sup>th</sup>: Fr. Thomas Blau will give a presentation, "Immaculate Conception and Grace," at 7pm in the church, followed by a Rosary prayer.
  - December 9<sup>th</sup>: Feast Day Masses will be at 8:30am, 11:30am, and 7:00pm.
  - December 10<sup>th</sup>: Vespers will begin at 6:15pm, followed by evening Mass.

Rich shared an IC Triduum Planning spreadsheet with council members, listing each task needed during the three-day event. He asked for volunteers for the remaining open tasks: David Lyons

agreed to introduce Fr. Blau and be a Vesper Reader. Julie Clemens and Janet Wilks agreed to be Vesper Readers. Janet Wilks and Martha Bowling (FF&SL commission member) will finish updating the supplies needed for prayer cards and decorations. Janet will also plan the Rosary prayer, which will take place after Fr. Blau's presentation. A council member dinner will be held for Fr. Blau before his presentation on Sunday. Council members agreed to bring desserts and provide support to Janet Wilks in setup and food preparation.

Janet suggested that upon completion of the Triduum celebration, the FF&SL commission should document the process that was used so that those who plan the event next year will have all information in one packet. The IC Triduum Planning spreadsheet created by Rich has already identified the planning steps and should be included in the packet.

In addition to planning for the Triduum, members discussed an Immaculate Conception Curriculum, which was developed by Martha Bowling and proposed to be used in all grade levels at IC School before the Triduum. Martha volunteered to find the Master Copy of the curriculum so, if desired, it can be used with students next year. She will also work on digitizing the curriculum so it will be readily available and easily accessible to all. **The curriculum will be presented to Fr. Hoover and Principal Kent for review and discussion of implementation into the school and religious education programs.**

### **Commission Breakout Meeting Reports**

- **Faith Formation & Spiritual Life:** Kendra Girardot completed an 8-week training course for the "IThirst" Program and will soon take the certification exam. In all, 40 people will become certified trainers. The next step will be meeting with the diocese to discuss implementation of the Program.
- **Social Concerns:** Members brainstormed how to reengage their ministries, especially how to make the BREAD and St. Vincent De Paul (food pantry) ministries stronger. A suggestion was made to have a conversation with the current leaders of these ministries to determine what support is needed. Another suggestion was made to invite IC students and their parents to serve in these ministries.
- **Parish & Community Life:** The Gardening Ministry reported that more perennials were planted this year than last, and Kendra Girardot has finished refurbishing the Sacred Heart Statue. The Garden Ministry will be decorating the campus for Christmas. The Bowling League will continue to meet regularly through May and is actively seeking new members.

### ***Closing and Next Meeting***

Rich called the meeting to a close at 8:35pm. The next Council meeting will be held at on December 11, 2024.

*Meeting minutes drafted and submitted by Julie Clemens, Parish Council Secretary.*