



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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

Immaculate Conception Parish Pastoral Council Meeting January 8, 2025

Rich Viertel called the Parish Council meeting to order at 7:45pm. Janet Wilks led the members in an opening prayer.

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

General Opening Comments: Rich welcomed Council to the New Year and thanked them for making the 2024 Immaculate Conception Triduum successful and beautiful. He also mentioned that, although Fr. Matt is currently out of town, he does plan to attend February's meeting. Furthermore, Fr. Matt will be giving a presentation about his sabbatical on Sunday, January 19th.

Announcements – Rich Viertel

- **Giving Tuesday - General Update:** IC's Giving Tuesday contributions for the Brian Muha/Run the Race Foundation were exceptional. The grand total will be announced during a Check Presentation to Rachel Muha on Thursday, January 16th at 9:15am.
- **New Member Welcome Packet contents:** Rich brought a sample of the New Parishioner Welcome Packet for Council members to review.
- **2025 Women's & Men's Conferences:** Rich asked Council to raise awareness among parishioners about the upcoming conferences.

Next Up:

- **2025 Aspirations:** Rich shared the following 4 aspirations with Council:
 - (1) Fill the role of Vice-President for the Council.
 - (2) Increase attendance by Parish Commission members to share the plans and insights for their respective ministries. Targeting 15-20 of these Ministries being represented to share their voice.
 - (3) Take an incremental step forward in the Engage at IC process to introduce and secure commitment for Parish member participation in our ministries.
 - (4) Continue to build on the good work of the Council in furthering the work of our ministries & commissions to increase sharing of plans and programming to identify opportunities to keep our mission in high gear.

Rich asked Council for help in finding a VP and increasing participation in Parish Commissions and Engage@IC. Council discussed the possibility of asking for quarterly updates from the 40+ IC Ministries, which would facilitate regular communication with each ministry and enable Council to understand any of their current needs and when possible, assist in fulfilling them.

- **2025 Immaculate Conception Triduum Planning, 2025 Engage@IC Planning:** Rich asked that planning for next year's Triduum begin in February and include having a conversation with Fr. Matt about his vision for the celebration. In reviewing the 2024 Triduum events, Council agreed the Tuesday evening Vesper service followed by Daily Mass was a successful addition. One member shared that when the FF&SL Commission plans activities, an important aspiration held by all is to create "repeatable events" (for example, the individual prayer intention cards collected during the Immaculate Conception Triduum has been a part of the celebration each year and parishioners say they look forward to participating in it). Rich called attention to the newly printed Upcoming Activities card, which features Faith Formation programming for Winter/Lent. In addition, Parish Council will be involved in the planning for May Crowning. Council will return to Engage@IC.

Commission Breakout Meeting Reports

- **Faith Formation & Spiritual Life:** Members discussed possible dates for the Immaculate Conception Triduum in 2025 and began brainstorming ideas for speakers and events. One member had two suggestions for speakers and added that one way to bring more parishioners to a speaker's presentation might be to have the speaker give the Homily during Sunday Mass. Members also raised the idea of showing a movie instead of having a speaker. A reminder was given of the prior suggestion to host a breakfast with IC school children and their mothers and grandmothers.
- **Social Concerns:** No report out.
- **Parish & Community Life:** The Gardening Ministry is currently planning the addition of a rain garden in the far west corner of the parish grounds. They will also be participating in Hospitality Sunday during March to raise awareness of the Ministry and recruit. Other IC Ministries are welcome to use Hospitality Sunday to increase awareness of their ministry and should contact P&CL to reserve a month. Parish Council has reserved Hospitality Sunday in April. The IC Springs of Love ministry will be hosting a movie night to show "Sound of Hope" on January 23rd, at 7:00pm.

Closing and Next Meeting

Rich called the meeting to a close at 8:20pm. The next Council meeting will be held at 7:30pm on February 12, 2025.

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