**St. Nicholas Parish Pastoral Council**

**October 26, 2021**

**Present:** Father Tom Baldonieri, Graciela Carmona, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Suzanne Lefevre, Jose Juan Moreno, Marco Noria, Yvonne Smith, Rob Sullivan.

**Absent:** Traci Laffey

**Opening Prayer**: 7:02 pm – Prayer for Synodality

**Welcome** to new members, Graciela and Marco

**Approval of September 28, 2021 Minutes:** Yvonne proposed a motion to approve the minutes and Suzanne seconded. They were unanimously approved.

**Parish Update – Fr. Tom**

**Renew My Church:** Parish Conversation, parishioners and staff gave feedback. Writing Team will put together a summary of each of the scenarios; will meet next Monday at Sheil Center. 35 people representing the Parishes and Sheil Center met last Monday. The first two scenarios were what most parishes chose. Schools are under a different evaluation system via the Office of Catholic Schools. St. Mary’s parishioners are 1/3 of PJ23.Students.

**October Count** – The October Count is underway at all the October Masses. No information about the attendance to date was available at the meeting.

**Religious Education:** There are 120 children enrolled in Spanish RE and , 110 in English RE, which includes families doing catechesis at home.

**December Mass Schedule:** We are hoping to know the Mass schedule soon for Christmas and New Years weekends. Yvonne proposed that we celebrate Kwanzaa on December 31st.

**UCYM Update**: UCYM members are working on Fiesta de Dia De Muertos, which will be held on Sunday, October 31st. Activities include Altar Visits, and Trunk or Treat. Also, Holy Fire will be held November 5th and 6th. This year it will be a hybrid event. St. Nicholas will be one of the in-person host sites.

**Other:** October 27th, Wednesday evening, Bishop Bartosic will lead prayer in the Church and then all are invited to a space on the third floor of Oldershaw Hall where people are invited to learn ways to live out the principles put forth in Pope Francis encyclical, Laudauto Si. We are one of 7 parishes in the Archdiocese hosting an event like this. The pope has asked certain archdiocese to do this and the Archdiocese; of Chicago is one of them.

**PPC Reports**

**Mass Attendance:** The 8:30 Mass is crowded because families are attending with their children who go to RE. There should be a clarification that as long as families attend Mass together, the Hispanic parishioners with children in RE can attend any Mass. The 10:15 am Mass is quite full. The 4:30 and 1 pm Masses have plenty of room. There will most likely be no change of the Mass Schedule until July, once the RMC plan begins to be implemented.

**St. Nicholas Festival:** Sheila spoke with Sarah Cross, who said we need volunteers, especially someone to run the Bake Sale and an English speaking person to lead that community for Raffle tickets. (Leonor Rojas will be the lead for the Hispanic community.) For anyone interested, there will be a Zoom Meeting on November 4th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss plans.

**Meeting with Seminarians at Mundelien:** As part of the Archdiocesan Women’s Committee, Sheila attended a day with the Seminarians. Father Webb presided at Mass, which began the day. Dr. Melanie Susan Barrett, who is on the Faculty at Mundelein, gave a brief presentation to start out the meeting. Nine women from the AWC and 21 seminarians made up the group. Sheila felt like the conversations were very open and productive, as the topics discussed were about matters of contemporary life, which have no easy answers.

**New Business:** A flyer about United Power did not get into the Bulletin, which was an oversight. Submissions go to Giselle Rico, who maintains the Bulletin. Father Tom has final approval of the content.

**Upcoming PPC Meeting Dates:** – November 30th; No meeting in December; First meeting of 2022 is on January 25th.

**Closing Prayer –** led by Father Tom.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:04 p.m..