

Minutes of the St. Andrew the Apostle Church Pastoral Planning Council October 4, 2022

other items as submitted.

The meeting opened at 7PM. Members present were Annmarie Leyden, Eleanor Petty, Father Kevin Abels, Christine Kemp, John Kemp, Lois Seelandt, Ann Smyth, Raquellsaza, Senen Martinez and Alex Rosado. Annmarie expressed her appreciation for the commissioning process which took place on 9/24.

The Third Avenue Festival was canceled because of rain. The establishment of a children's choir for grades 1 to 5 and the need to raise money was discussed. Sergio is not available to rehearse the choir, and he is leaving in December. Fr. Kevin suggested that the cantors be approached to perform rehearsals for children at a reasonable fee,

There will be a new music minister and the job description could include rehearsing a children's choir. The majority of children attend the 11AM Mass.

The Christmas pageant will be on the Saturday before Christmas. The dialogue is based on a Tomie de Paola book. The children will come in costume, and cookies will be served. A leader of song recommended by Sergio might be available just for this year. A clear job description for the music person is needed. A basic salary is provided plus a stipend for weddings, funerals and quincineras.

John Kemp presented election issues. District 11 is mostly Staten Island. ¾ million people are in each district. A presentation will be made on Saturday and Sunday. Care for Creation will have a table and games at the block party. Fair Trade does about \$3500 in sales with a \$1200 profit for the parish. Amazon Smile contributes about \$500 a year.

Some improvements are needed in the plant. The house will be used for classes. The sound system needs a complete overhaul. Estimates for a stair lift need to be gathered. The organ needs to be examined. A cleaner is needed for the house and all the bathrooms.

Spiritual improvements would include an outreach to parishioners who have drifted away and to anyone who needs assistance. We should know who our parishioners are. Phone calls can be made to people who did not pick up their envelopes. We should find out who gives online. Christine, Raquel and Eleanor volunteered to make calls. We need more Eucharistic ministers, lectors and cantors. Bible study is starting in December. Babies will be baptized at Mass on one Sunday a month starting in December. Better communication is necessary. Perhaps a newsletter would work. Senen discussed some of the superstitions that are part of the Spanish community's interaction with Catholicism. Father Hector will be made aware of this issue.

A retreat for the Eucharistic Revival will be offered on Saturday Dec.10 in person from 8:45 to 4:30 for leaders of the parish. . Also the parish council should arrange for some social time as a group. There are no committees at this time. We need more people to sign up to be members of the parish. On Holy Thursday a tent could be erected in the garden. The Eucharist would be present. The thrift store Peace by Piece will be approached as an Advent project. The Hour Children Christmas Giving Tree will be part of the holiday season.

The meeting was closed at 8:30 PM.