

St. Mel Church
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 9, 2023

Members Present:

Fr. Adam Zajac, Pastor

Sally Armstrong

Bill Gerken, Parish Secretary

Natale Badillo-excused

Rob Cahill

Patrick Kerrigan

Susan Mitchell

Agenda items discussed:

➤ Review of marriage enrichment speaker event:

The event was very well received, 18 couples registered and attended. This event was funded by the Diocese of Cleveland Marriage and Family Ministry. There are 2 more upcoming events in 2024 with different speakers. There seems to be positive feedback that events are happening at the parish even if parishioners are not able to attend events. We also discussed the possibility of more lecture series on other topics.

➤ Christmas Mass Schedule:

St. Mel Mass Times for the Christmas Holiday are as follows:

Saturday Dec 23 4:30 PM regular Saturday Mass

Sunday Dec 24 7:00 AM (4th Sunday of Advent No 10:00 AM Mass); 6:00 PM

Christmas in the evening Mass

Monday Dec 25 10:00 AM (Christmas during the day)

St. Mark Mass Times are as follows:

Saturday Dec 23 4:00 PM

Sunday Dec 24 8:30 AM (4th Sunday of Advent); 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM

(Christmas in the evening)

Monday Dec 25 8:30 AM (Christmas during the day)

The limiting factor for Christmas Masses is music, Julia is doing all the Christmas and weekend Masses and cannot be in two places at once unfortunately. Due to the larger population and more younger families St. Mark will have the 4:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve. With no 4 PM Mass here at St. Mel there may be an impact on the holiday collection, but the Diocese says in no uncertain terms the

loose cash cannot be split between both parishes. This will be looked into further in the future. For now, if you want a contribution to go to a certain parish put it in an envelope and mark that for that parish.

Does the Christmas Vigil count for both Sunday and Christmas Obligation? Per the Diocesan Memorandum **NO**. You must attend both the 4th Sunday of Advent Mass and either the Christmas Vigil or Holy Day Mass.

➤ Other items discussed:

Upcoming Men's & Women's retreats on the 1st and 2nd weekends in December at the Bethany retreat house.

Liturgical minister night on November 16th as a chance to pray and reflect on why we volunteer.

We Give Catholic drive on November 28th. We are raising money to replace the school windows. This is necessary as the windows are original to the building.



Thank you everyone for attending and for all your input.

Next Pastoral Council Meeting: Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Upcoming Pastoral Council meeting dates:

- Thursday March 14, 2024
- Thursday May 9, 2024