St. Gregory the Great Family Pastoral Council (FPC)

September 25, 2023

St. John Fisher Church

Present: Fr. Steve Angi, Debbie Birck, John Elliott, Dan Frey, Jim Moyer, Gloria Parker-Martin,

Pam Payne, Chris Richard, Megan Roach, Jeff Zalar

Opening prayer – Jim Moyer

Jim discussed the vision statement, goals, and objectives of this consultative body known as the St. Gregory the Great Family Pastoral Council (FPC). The five phases of pastoral planning are Leadership, Vision, Culture, Planning, Mission. The St. Gregory Family of Parishes will have Directors of Stewardship, Evangelization, Worship, Love in Action, Communications, Finance/Administration.

Discussion ensued about SMART goals – **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**ealistic, **Ti**mely.

The group needs to appoint a secretary from within the current council or ask an interested parishioner.

Eight FPC members will attend the October 26th Deanery Convocation at IHM; one will attend convocation at SMOY.

In general, the council thought the documents presented by the Pathways Team at our initial August meeting were informative and well-presented.

The council individually shared our personal strengths. All encouraged by the diversity of skills and knowledge.

Members shared what we are hearing in our communities about the formation of our family.

Lack of trust is a common theme. The unexpected result of becoming a family was very disturbing and unsettling for some parishioners of each parish after being advised of a different scenario. How can our people trust that what is stated will be?

Schools are another concern. Will they be combined? Will some grades be at GA others at IHM?

Communication. Perhaps communication should have been more thorough.

Council members are tasked with thinking of concrete ways to communicate with parishioners in the pew. We must be clear with our statements. Use words such as “at the present time,” “currently” …do not use words such as “never,” “probably. We recognize there will always be “rumors” about changes that may be made in the future. We are in the midst of a five-year plan to combine three parishes into one so change is inevitable.

We will focus on communications at our October meeting.

Fr. Steve:

Shared that all parishes and both schools are solvent. At the present time there are no discussions being held regarding the closing of any parish or facilities.

The Angelico Project musicians will use IHM church as their concert venue on December 7. They will be at Mother of God in Covington on either 12/5 or 12/6.

Our new website should be operational by mid-October, barring any setbacks. [We will need a place on this website to post our meeting notes.]

Jim reported that the Pathways Team will have our direction spelled out shortly. The Pathways Team is meeting on October 20.

Each month Jim will ask a different council member to lead us in an opening and closing prayer.

Our next meeting will be Monday, October 23, in the IHM Welcome Center.