

# St. John The Baptist Parish Groups & Activities Commission

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 2/21/2023

**Attendees:** Rita, Molly, Tom, Taylor, John, Joseph, Tessa, Maria, and Andrea B.

**Absent:** Jim

### Opening Prayer

### Group Updates

- **New Business/Discussion/Review**
  - **Library**
    - **Library Committee Presentation by Jeannie Kratzer**
      - Library founded in 2011.
      - Free to use, no budget, all items are donated.
      - Library exposes people to a lot of things they wouldn't normally be exposed to. A variety of people come, not just parishioners. There are Protestants who come, nonbelievers who come, families and children who visit. Several priests use items from the library to help them with their homilies. Catechists and teachers will use items for their formation courses.
      - Some items have even been sent abroad.
      - People can pick up free items, and many items are distributed to hospitals, nursing homes, etc.
      - Father Skluzacek says we have the best Parish library in the Twin Cities.
      - There have been 50 items checked out this year, that doesn't include people who have just gone and browsed.
      - The current computer they are using is starting to act up/dying and is old.
      - We are now in an electronic age, and the library feels they need to keep up.
    - **Strategy for Increasing Traffic in the Library by Pat Rother**
      - The library's "tagline" is "books, DVDs, and CDs to enrich your faith."
      - Improve signage.
      - Pat has created ads about the library that should raise curiosity and can be used on plaza monitors, as cards on the Harvest Table, be put in the bulletin, used as pulpit announcements, used on social media, used as a bookmark etc. The back has information about the library hours and how to volunteer.
      - Bookmarks with library information to pass out.
      - Have updated brochure.
      - Page on website.
      - Can we do an announcement after Mass and then have people handing out flyers or book marks after Mass? Could we do book clubs or movie nights?
    - **Hardware/Software**
      - Library Committee laptop has basically stopped working, the committee is working with what they have
    - **Recommendation from PGA –**

- We love the commitment of our library committee and acknowledge that they are doing great work in bringing others closer to Christ through what they offer. We are so thankful for their work coming up with a strategy for increasing awareness around the library. In the future, we will support their efforts to spread the word about the library by visiting the library ourselves, remind others about it, and help hand out bookmarks after Mass. Joseph will utilize the ads that the library committee made and use them in the bulletin, emails, televisions, etc. *We need PLC to communicate with the library committee about if and when a software investment will be possible, and if it is a potential in the future, what number of library visitors is needed in order to start the conversation.*

- **Open Items**

- Member Update
  - We are still in need two more members on our commission

## **Next Meeting**

- March

21

## **Closing Prayer**