

# Family and Youth Initiatives Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2024

Committee Members Present: Kari Mathys, Jenny VandenLangenberg, Mitch Peterson, Loren Vandenplas, Tara O'Donohue, Katie Fameree, Tammy Malach, Connie Davister

Deacon Jeff was also present and led us in an opening prayer.

1. Grandparent Event Celebration Recap. Here is the planning document to make comments: [Grandparents Day Celebration](#). Attendees were very happy and liked this new event. We will likely continue it in the future. Next time, we'd like to use the Fellowship Hall for more space.
2. Pet Blessing Recap Here is the planning document to make comments: [Pet Blessing](#). We had about the same amount of people attend- not more or less than previous years. We had 21 dogs, 3 cats, and 2 bunnies get blessed. Everyone liked the photo backdrop and opportunity for get their photo taken with their pets, as well as the magnetic frames that we put them in as a keepsake.
3. Boxes of Joy - Cross Catholic Outreach-October is collection month
  - a. There is a sign and donation area in the Gathering Space. We already have many donations. We will sort the donations after the Pumpkin Carving event on 10/27 and buy more if needed.
  - b. Boxes will be packed on November 3rd during Gospel Time and after the 10:00 Mass.
4. Pumpkin Carving Event-October 27th
  - a. Finalize details. Here is the planning document: [Pumpkin Carving Event](#)
  - b. Members attending are Kari, Jenny, Mitch, Loren, Katie, Tammy.
5. Breakfast in Bethlehem and the Magi Market Event-December 15
  - a. Preliminary Planning. Jenny will ask Gary Hermans if the KOC can cook breakfast again. The Magi Market will be in the community room, breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Connie and Jenny will look into doing a small play during BIB.
6. Child Care Ministry Update- The committee and Deacon Jeff discussed the options for space to be used for childcare and a general kids space. Deacon Jeff

offered the idea of using the Blessed Carlo Acutis room as the area designated for a youth and teen room. It could also be used for child care that we would offer during some events held at POP. Tara and Jenny will proceed with some initial concepts on layout and items needed and bring them forth to the group and Parish Staff in the upcoming weeks.

Save the Date:

- Thurs. Dec. 12 Parish Lectio Divina Event - Child Care Request by Discipleship Committee

**Next Meeting:** November 14 at 6:30 -Carlo Acutis Room