

Pastoral Council Minutes
October 24, 2017

Members in Attendance: Fr. Terry Keehan, Jack Shedd, Ro Geisler, Brooke Held, Bernie Schaeffer, Joe Ferlita, Pauline Carlson, Andy Konopka, Tony Mathias, Heidi Trocha, Barb Knuth, Alex Posey, Anthony P., Cattie Scharm, Karina Chavez

Members Absent: Fr. Rich Jakubik, Chad Archer, Tracey Cantarutti, Mike Myers, Robin Schreiner,

Chairman Jack Shedd called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

I. Mission and Faith First

Joe shared some passages from the book 7 Steps to Effective Prayer.

II. Mission Effectiveness and Pulse of the Parish

- Alex noted the teens are starting Kairos 24 Friday through Monday. The count is low due in part to this being an ACT Weekend as well as the last weekend before many college applications are due.
- Anthony said the teens will be going to NCYC next month. Their fundraiser was successful enough to pay for both Adults and save each teen approximately \$200.
- Cattie shared that the Academy won a Blue Ribbon of Excellence. She and Kate will be traveling to Washington D.C. in November to accept the award.
- Fr. Terry was excited to report the Academy was certified by STEM today.
- Jack heard about Fr. Terry's homily on increasing giving and how well it was received.
- Tony said there was an Ignite retreat a couple of weeks ago that went very well. He commended Melody for the awesome job she did putting it together.
- Pauline said she's been noticing the teen section at the teen masses seems a bit empty. She's hopeful it will fill up.
- Fr. Terry said the reflections at the teen masses has been terrific.
- Jack wondered if we couldn't capture the energy of the teens during Kairos and somehow get it out to more teens. Ro said she'd speak to Nora about getting it on the Teen Facebook page.
- There was discussion about engaging the teens and their energy once they attend Kairos.
- Pauline reminded us we had once talked about interviewing teens about their experience and making a video.
- Tony suggested getting parent testimonials and putting it all on Facebook.

III. Approval of the September Council Minutes

Bernie made a motion to approve the September minutes.
Andy seconded the motion.
All were in favor.

IV. Pastors Report

- Fr. Terry shared his gratitude for the prayers and sentiments he and his family received following his mom's recent passing. He was particularly impressed with the sentiments shared by HFCA and the faith classes.
- Fr. Terry thanked Fr. Rich for filling in for the masses. He noted Fr. Rich is quickly becoming an unbelievable blessing.
- Fr. Terry informed the council that Brian Michalski has decided to move on. He wished him well and thanked him for his time at Holy Family.
- In conjunction with Brian's departure, Fr. Terry will be leading efforts to restructure the Worship, Liturgy, and Pastoral Care ministries. He will become increasingly involved in the creative elements of these ministries.
- Fr. Terry stated Dr. Peg has trained over 100 new Table and Light Ministers.
- Fr. Terry thanked Deacon Dennis Brown, Mimi Felita and Sherry Deluca for stepping up during Brian's absence.
- Deacon Dennis has brought in a sense of organization allowing the team to schedule and carry out early planning for both Advent/Christmas 2017 as well as Lent/Easter 2018.
- The theme for Advent will be "Awaken".
- This past weekend, Fr. Terry presented the Annual Report where he spoke about the parish finances as well as increased stewardship.
- Some points made were;
 - There has been a slight increase in weekend collections.
 - There has been an increase in the number of electronic givers.
 - We are still borrowing from our savings to meet the budget.
 - We have made continued cuts in administrative areas.
 - Fr. Terry shared his fear if collections don't increase we will have to cut programs, ministries and services that have gained us national attention in places such as Bill Simon's book "Great Catholic Parishes" and his follow up article in the Wall Street Journal.
 - Fr. Terry asked all to consider giving electronically as well as increase their weekly giving by a cup of Starbucks (\$5) per week.
- An email about the Annual Report and Stewardship went out to everyone to reach those who did not attend mass this weekend.
- Our 2018 Gala Kickoff will be this weekend with a video at all masses.
- Fr. Terry said he will reschedule his sabbatical sometime in the future.
- The annual Beloved Retreat will be held January 19-21, 2018. Fr. Terry encouraged all Parish Council Members, Academy Board Members and Finance Council Members to attend one during their term.
- Fr. Terry did a brief review of Fall Fest along with Bernie.
 - There was a profit of just over \$13,000.

- We probably lost \$7,000 to \$8,000 due to the weather.
- There was a wrap up meeting where they generated some new ideas for next year.
- Jack wondered if one thing we might be missing with Fall Fest is the community outreach aspect of it even if we don't raise a lot of money.
- There was discussion.

V. Liturgical Life/ Music Ministry

- Heidi shared an update from Mimi about Liturgical Life.
 - Ministers of Care will be attending an Enrichment night at St. Ann's on October 19th.
 - After the Ministry Fair, Liturgical Life received 28n inquiries into their various ministries.
 - There will be a new mass schedule for Christmas and New Year's masses.
 - Our Funeral and Bereavement Ministries have served an outstanding number of funerals recently.
 - The Creative Sewing Ministry needs an Embroidery sewing machine. They are looking for someone to help embroider the baptismal bibs or donate a machine.
- Heidi shared an update from Gene about Music and Technology.
 - We are consulting with Amplio for phase 2 of the technology updates. These would include:
 - Replacement of the mixing console
 - Analog wireless microphones with digital technology
 - Maintenance of the aging amplifiers
 - Acoustic treatment of the interior of the church to minimize reverberation challenges without compromising the aesthetics of the space.
 - We are looking at replacing the digital bell tower system as it is beginning to fail.
 - This summer we made the transition of moving our choir members to the 9am liturgy. This was done to maximize participation so small groups of singers aren't competing with a large band.
 - Gene is responsible for most of the slides created for the screens on the weekend. He is working on improving our branding and visual consistency.
 - This year he is looking to add text over the live camera feed while proclaimers read the scripture.

VI. Gala Update

- Bernie shared the theme for the Gala will be Le Grand Bal de Versailles.
- The date will be February 24, 2018 at Concorde Banquets in Kildeer.
- There are 3 women chairing the event.
- Save the dates have been sent out to attendees from the last couple of years.
- Bernie noted there will be information in the Narthex starting this weekend about the raffles and live auction.

- An email blast will go out this weekend to the entire parish as well as faith parents and Academy parents.
- The Gala website will go live this week.
- They are working on the finishing touches of the sponsorship packages.
- Bernie shared several ways for people to be involved and support the Gala.
- Bernie also noted the 4th Estate Planning Seminar was held with over 20 people attending. The feedback was very positive.

VII. Parish Council Retreat

- Jack stated that Chad will become the new Chairman of the Council in November.
- The retreat will be held after the 11:00 mass on November 19th.
- There will be several new members on the council. Ro has asked the Directors for their Council recommendations.
- Ro will let Beth Tikvah know to join us at the December meeting instead of the November Meeting.
- Terry noted there is a contest to get people to sign up for electronic giving. Prizes will be 3 Cross of New Life Statues.

VIII. Other Needs/Issues

- Joe said the Knights will be holding their annual men's gathering on February 3, 2018.

X. Pauline shared a prayer for those devastated by the storms in closing.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm

The next meeting date is November 19, 2017 for the Council Retreat.

Respectfully submitted, Heidi Trocha