

**Pastoral Council Minutes  
December 18th, 2018**

**Present:** Fr. Terry, Mike Myers, Chad Archer, Bill Leece, Sue Geegan, Pete Barber, Joan Sloan, Michael Pazur, and Ro Geisler

**Not Present:** Greg Flanagan, Luis Gutierrez, Bob Keller, Barb Knuth, Andy Konopka, Kasia Meler, Tony Piasecki, Rick Zanardo, and Fr. Rich

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M. by Mike Myers.

**I. Mission and Faith First**

- Chad Archer shared a song by Neil Diamond, "Be" with the lyrics: "Be as a page that aches for a word which speaks on a theme that is timeless, and the one God will make for your day."

**II. Beth Tikvah Donation**

- Members from the Beth Tikvah Jewish Community thanked Fr. Terry and Holy Family for hosting their congregation during the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and presented a donation to the Parish.



### **III. MISSION EFFECTIVENESS AND PULSE OF THE PARISH**

- Mike lead the Council in reading the Vision and Mission Statements
- Bill shared that An Evening of Anecdotes & Melodies with Gene Garcia & Friends was well received. Chad added that it should inspire confidence that the Parish could host a Contemporary Christian Artist.
- Mike shared that a couple that met at “To Be Joyful Again” will be married at Holy Family
- Missed an opportunity for “Bethlehem Market” to be widely received, especially by the Academy...simply overlooked or under communicated.
- Chad shared that while Disney World gets a lot of things right with hospitality, even they have missed the experience in the parking lot and Ticket and Transportation Center. The first touch and first impression is in the parking lot. Pete added that even ushers could do more to greet.

### **IV. Approval of Council Minutes**

- No Quorum

### **V. Pastor’s Report (Fr. Terry)**

- One family that moved from Germany joined our Academy because of our International Baccalaureate Curriculum. A young woman from Belgium and another from Costa Rica are in our RCIA program seeking full communion in our church. Our ambitious Mission and vibrant spirit stretch internationally!
- “Advent by Candlelight” was expected to draw 100 woman, but actually 300 attended! One of the highlights of Fr. Terry’s time at Holy Family.
- Family and Teen Faith enrollment is up slightly
- Academy enrollment is 536, an all-time high.
- Eleven adults are preparing for full initiation through RCIA. Another 6 children between ages 5 and 15 are preparing for Baptism through RCIC.
- Conversations continue with Catholic Extension Society regarding concerns at the US/Mexico border, with Fr. Terry, Ro and Sue visiting New Mexico, Arizona and Texas last week.
- Advent themes of BE Alert, Filled, Satisfied, and Surprised. Christmas will encourage us to BE LOVED.
- Welcoming efforts before, during and after Masses will continue to be evaluated and expanded. This is one of the priorities moving forward.
- Academy classroom teachers and children are assuming more responsibility for planning Wednesday Masses.
- Fr. Terry’s letter and follow-up from the Clergy Sexual Abuse Survey was sent to 3500 parishioners.
- \$71k has been collected the budget catch-up initiative.
- Mass of Rock will be January 27th at 4pm
- Gala is Saturday, February 23rd at Concord Banquets

## **VI. Other Business**

- Capital Campaign - 63 individual interviews and 300+ electronic interviews have been conducted. Results are just coming in, and lots to digest, but overall feedback is good. Some tweaking needed.
- Deanery Council Update - Illinois Tax Scholarship is being matched 2-for-1 if donation is made through Empower Illinois. \$100k cap per parish (+ \$200k = \$300k)

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned by Mike Myers at 8:43pm. A closing prayer was offered by Bill Leece.

Respectfully submitted by Chad Archer