

**Pastoral Council Minutes
March 19th, 2019**

Present: Fr. Terry, Fr. Rich, Mike Myers, Chad Archer, Greg Flanagan, Sue Geegan, Luis Gutierrez, Bob Keller, Barb Knuth, Bill Leece, Kasia Meler, Michael Pazur, Anthony Piasecki, Joan Sloan, Rick Zanardo, Ro Geisler, Peg Hanrahan

Not Present: Pete Barber, Andy Konopka

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Mike Myers.

I. Mission and Faith First

- Joan played the daily reflection for the Second Sunday of Lent from Dynamic Catholic, which reflected on Andrew, Peter's "almost-anonymous" brother.

II. Mission Statement and Pulse of the Parish

- Michael discussed the success of the Gala and the tax credit scholarship matching grants.
- Michael also mentioned the difficulties in the parking lot during morning drop-off due to poor parking lot conditions during the last snow of the season.
- Luis discussed the possibility of a "year-of-recognition" for woman at work in the parish behind-the-seasons.
- Chad mentioned that Kid Church continues to grow by word-of-mouth, with no discernible drop-off from the split of older kids into Adam's Apple. Luis added a new Kid Church video is forth-coming.
- Anthony mentioned the success of Pastapalooza and the engagement of teens at the Sunday, 4pm Mass.
- Joan added that incorporating music from Kairos would be good.

III. Approval of Council Minutes

- February minutes - Motion to approve made by Joan, and seconded by Luis. All approved.

IV. Family Faith Update - Dr. Peg Hanrahan, Director

- 2018-19 Family Faith enrollment is up 5%, the third straight increase in enrollment.
- Ignite (Jr. High) down 12%, Flame up 8.5%; no drop-outs, but 6th and 7th grade classes are comparatively small
- 10 RCIC candidates, 111 First Communion candidates, 93 children prepared for Form A Reconciliation, 68 Confirmation candidates
- 60 Catechists and 46 Peer Ministers
- Faith Faith revenue (tuition and retreat expenses) cover 50% of total cost
- Other accomplishments:
 - Attendance up by 25% with new tracking protocol
 - 68% of HF teens remain actively engaged in parish life

- All curriculums have been reviewed and updated, with Family Faith moving from We Believe (Sadler) to Finding God (Loyola Press)
- Sacramental policies and prep programs have been reviewed and updated and in full compliance with Archdiocesan standards
- Safety protocols have been reviewed and updated
- New communication protocols
- Formation of staff development initiatives
- Christian service incorporated at all grade levels
- Increase use and access to technology
- Better coordination with Worship and Faith
- Teen mental health initiative
- Inauguration of community building activities
- Dramatic increase in parental involvement
- Mindfulness practice incorporated in the curriculum at all levels
- Key Challenges:
 - Large number of disaffiliated youth
 - Lack of parent investment
 - Consumer approach to Church
 - Need for Church renewal

V. Pastor's Report (Fr. Terry)

- Nun visiting from Brooklyn at 4pm Teen Mass on March 10th was blown away by the teens participation and energy. She had NEVER seen anything like it.
- The Beloved Retreat was once again enriching. The next will be November 1-3 at Mundelein Seminary
- 10 RCIC and 13 RCIA Candidates
- Ro Geisler, Mary Whiteside and Sue Geegan and Fr. Terry met with Cardinal Cupich on March 11 regarding the Clergy Sexual Abuse Survey and follow-up. He promises to personally address as many concerns as possible.
- As many fundraisers and financial asks as possible have been eliminated, replaced by the ability to request funds from biggest fundraiser - The Gala.
- In spirit of Renew My Church, there have been some small changes to Weekday Mass and Reconciliation.
- All Parish Reconciliation Service will be Wednesday, April 10 at 7pm
- Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 7pm. A new Stations of the Cross for Athletes, written by Fr. Terry, will be on April 12th.
- Lenten theme is "The Return, a radical journey of the heart"

VI. Other Business

- Sue handed out a flyer on the Lenten Social Justice Project, Kino Border Initiative and Holy Family Fund
- The Parish Mission with Father Ed Shea will be March 24-26

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned by Mike Myers at 9:01pm. A closing prayer for teachers was offered by Rick Zanardo.

Respectfully submitted by Chad Archer