

# Pastoral Table Meeting Minutes

Date: 04/26/2022

Attendees: Fr. Terry, Mike Myers, Lisa Gagliano, Sue Geegan, Ro Geisler, Krystal Harris, Joy Kull, Anne Madsen, Rick McMahon

Absent: Greg Flanagan, Luis Gutierrez

- **Opening Prayer** - Anne
- **Welcome Krystal Harris to the Pastoral Table!**
  - Since it was Krystal's first meeting, she gave the attendees some background information about herself and activities she's done in college and at the present time. She had mentioned organizing various events in college, e.g., "Busy Person's Retreat", which Fr. Terry thought it might be something we could think about setting up at Holy Family.
  - Mike mentioned that Krystal, being the representative and voice of the younger demographic, is vital to the parish.
  - All the members that were present introduced themselves to Krystal
- **Pastor's Report** - Fr. Terry
  - **Gala Report/Feedback**
    - Fr. Terry
      - There were some concerns about the gala because of the new format. Despite initial concerns, Gala proceeded with great energy and everyone had a great time.
      - Fr. Terry thanked the Gala chairs, Sponsors, HF Staff, and volunteers who made it all possible
      - The Sponsors were quite generous. Five of the Sponsors were HFCA parents
      - Because it was held on-campus, the staff had to do a LOT of work! Special mention to Bernie Schaeffer and Jackie Pulkrabek who pulled everything together.
      - We need to spread the word that the "May I have the envelope please" challenge is still ongoing and people can donate until May 15th (**need confirmation on this**). There were some discussions on how this campaign was not well publicized and that people were confused on how it works. Anne suggested that maybe we could tie the envelope donations to a prize drawing just like what was done at the Gala. Ro said that it should've been advertised weekly, although Rick thought the email that Fr. Terry sent out was pretty clear.
      - Gala goal was \$115,000 and we expect to exceed this. The Paddle goal was \$50K, we actually raised \$86K. Financial results will not be available until early May.
      - Next school year is the Academy's 20th anniversary so maybe they can take the lead in organizing the next Gala
    - Anne's Feedback
      - People liked the casual attire and people seemed to have had a good time that they were still talking about the it on Sunday morning
      - Some people have expressed concern that the Mass of Rock was tied to the Gala so those who didn't have Gala tickets couldn't go to it. It would've been nice if everyone can go.

- Joy's Feedback
  - It was good to have the auction before dinner
  - Some people didn't get to mingle as much during dinner because people were spread out all over the back part of the campus.
- Rick's Feedback
  - Although Rick didn't attend, he had heard that some people were very hungry because dinner started after auction and that it was had to find a place to sit

- **Lenten Social Justice**

- Goal is to find partners who share our parish's views on Catholic social justice teachings
- This year, the parish was able to raise \$54,056.07 for Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation. We have not presented them with the check yet but Sue plans to do the presentation during mass
- Anne had asked if there will be some ongoing ministry or project that we can hook up with PBMR and Sue said that she has been in touch with them and there's some ministries in the Fall that we can join. Fr. Kelly (PBMR) was thrilled to hear that people are interested in participating/working with PBMR.

- **Renew My Church**

- There will be 12 parishioners and HF staff going to St. Anne's (Barrington) to begin RMC initiative
- Fr. Terry noted that we are NOT merging with St. Anne's, the goal is to collaborate and share ideas. Mike mentioned that a part of the confusion around RMC is the fact that in some instances, parishes have been combined

- **Other Parish Events**

- First Communion is on April 30th
- Confirmation is on May 3rd
- We have a new Coordinator for Youth Ministry starting soon - Patty McCarthy
- HFCA is resuming the Washington DC trip for 8th graders after a 2-year hiatus

- **Adventures in Grace**

- Conversations are ongoing about AiG continuing; conversations taking place on what will come next. Next step is to get feedback on AiG via informal events, e.g., Trivia Night, concerts, movie nights, etc. We need to have a series of events this summer that will target young parents / young adults. Another suggestion is to have an action component activity or organization that we can partner with post-AiG to keep the momentum going.
- Anne's must-read book recommendations that could help in post-AiG plans:
  - "The Whole Language: The Power of Extravagant Tenderness" by Fr. Greg Boyle (Fr. Terry also recommended this book)
  - "Care for Creation: A Franciscan Spirituality of the Earth" by Ilia Delio O.S.F.

- **Hospitality Ministry Proposal - Sue Geegan**
  
- Sue Geegan had sent out a proposal to revamp the Hospitality Ministry. Radical Hospitality is a vital aspect of Holy Family and had been missing after masses due to COVID. Sue had surveyed the pre-COVID volunteers and only a few are open to coming back - 17 people total. Most of the old volunteers have been doing it for a long time and would like to take a break. Because of this, Sue thought that it would be an excellent time to make some changes and do something different. She is asking if some members of the Pastoral Table (i.e., 2 or 3 people) could take the lead in re-establishing the Hospitality Ministry. This will give them a chance to experience starting a ministry from scratch and allow them to interact with more parishioners to get the 'pulse' of the parish. The ministry lead(s) will have to submit a 'business' plan containing budget, logistics, how to recruit/sign-up volunteers, schedule, etc. **Sue hopes to get this started back up in June.**
  
- How was it set up before?
  - There were 16 teams with a total of 94 volunteers
  - Weekend rotations asked teams of 3-9 people to serve every 5-6 weeks
  - All food is donated
  - Parish provides the coffee
  
- Group discussed various ideas on how to get volunteers
  - Lisa: Good opportunity for HFCA families to participate
  - Rick: How about the various ministries taking turns, e.g., ushers, proclaimers, eucharistic ministers, etc?
  - Mike: Advertise need for volunteers on the website
  - Fr Terry: Asked if SCC's can do hospitality but not everyone wants to do it
  - Mike: Advertise the need for volunteers on the screen before every mass? Sue's concern with this is that some people would step up but may not be the right fit for the job.
  - Sue: Can people recommend someone who can lead this effort?
    - Group discussion on first hospitality event
      - Krystal suggested doing something like a 'Milkshake' mass they used to have at Notre Dame; people loved it so it was a very popular mass. She also suggested expanding hospitality beyond just after mass. Maybe add hospitality to other events, not just on Sundays.
      - Fr Terry suggested Donut Sunday, which could be popular with the kids. Anne mentioned her old parish having 'Donut Sunday' but they charged \$1 and they had a Ministry Fair alongside it so parishioners could get more information on the various programs in the parish.
      - Fr Terry said we need to do something for FM mass. Lisa suggested getting an Academy class to assist with hospitality. They can invite parents and grandparents to help
      - Sue stated that we can start slow. Fr Terry suggested that we pick a Sunday when there's no other events, advertise it, and see how it goes.
    - Group discussion on importance of Hospitality
      - Rick: This is an opportunity for us to get more people to come back on a regular basis
      - Anne: Through radical hospitality, HF can show that it is a welcoming community. She compared HF's website with Old St Pat's and found that it was easier for her to find out about OSP ministries and groups in their website. She

thinks HF's website is harder to navigate and doesn't speak on who and what HF does. She also discussed what she thinks is missing from the Parish Bulletin.

- Krystal: If we want to get younger people, we need to sit them down and talk to them. We need to bring the church into the community in a lot of different ways. People need to see the meaning and impact to their lives. We need to take Church out of church.
- Mike: Radical hospitality is an important component of marketing. However, we need to stay focused on getting hospitality established. We can discuss marketing and other ways to get people of various ages to come to HF next time.
- Next Steps
  - Mike asked if Sue's proposal to get some member of Pastoral Table to take lead in re-establishing Hospitality is an appropriate request
  - Lisa suggested that we start small since it will be a new thing
  - Anne declined to participate since she is getting surgery in May so it will not work if it is to start in June
  - Other members present during the meeting were not able to commit; still need time to think things through
  - Mike will talk to Greg and Luis to see if they are willing to take the lead in this effort but mentioned that the main issue is the amount of time that people can spare to set this up
- **Closing Prayer - Mike**
- **Next meeting is scheduled for May 24th**