

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 6, 2017

In Attendance: John Dickhaus (Chairperson), Christina Boss, Sarah Holland, Paul Justice, John Kelly, Jeff Racic, Rev. Tim Ralston, Chuck Cullen (Recording Secretary)

Absent: Patty Pryor

Guest:

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson John Dickhaus.

Faith Formation/Opening Prayer: Jeff Racic distributed a handout about Saint Nicholas. The handout related how St. Nicholas spent his life helping others and how he became a Bishop. It also told of two tales about St. Nicholas. He was a person who found good in nearly everybody. Many miracles have been associated with him. Over the years, we have twisted the legend of this saint into the person we know as Santa Claus. As a result, we have lost the real lessons and values of the saint's life. The members then took a moment to reflect upon the story of St. Nicholas.

Sarah Holland indicated that as she was growing up, she was taught that St. Nicholas and Santa Claus were two different people. She wasn't sure how many celebrate St. Nicholas anymore. She also said that he kept his parent's ideals even though they died when he was young. Christina Boss indicated that St. Nicholas had a keen idea of what was right and acted to do the right thing. Jeff ended the discussion by stating that even though he lived 1,700 years ago, his life is remembered.

Minutes: The minutes from the November 8, 2017 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Ministry Weekend: Chairperson Dickhaus mentioned that the parish will hold a Ministry Weekend in 2018 during Lent. Fr. Tim recommended the weekend of February 24-25. Sarah Holland will contact the leaders of the various ministries to inform them of the event and ask for their participation. The members then reviewed the list of ministries as printed in the weekly bulletin. The Parish Directory will also be used to contact other ministries. Christina Boss suggested placing a notice in the bulletin prior to the Ministry Weekend to make parishioners aware of the event.

Scrip: Chairperson Dickhaus reported that Donna Cox is retiring from the Scrip Ministry. At this time, a new person will be needed for the 11 a.m. mass. Eventually, someone will need to assume the "paperwork" duties associated with the program. The members discussed several possible replacements for Ms. Cox.

School Security Update: According to Chairperson Dickhaus, there are three doors to the school building that remain unlocked during school days and they cannot be easily locked during school hours. During the Christmas break, the doors will be wired to a "panic button" so they can be closed rapidly in case of an emergency. He also reported that additional cameras will be installed. Furthermore, classroom door floor blocks will be installed, and each classroom will receive an emergency "to go" bag in case of an emergency evacuation.

Announcements: Chairperson Dickhaus informed the members of the following:

- The Thanksgiving food drive sponsored by the St. Vincent DePaul Society was very successful. The school was particularly active in collecting items for the drive.
- The recent Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the 8th graders exceeded expectations. Nearly \$1,700 was generated for their upcoming trip to Washington, D.C.
- The Craft Show generated about \$1,400 and was pretty well attended. This show was held on the same day as the one at St. Thomas More.
- The Christmas Basketball Tournament will not be held this year due to scheduling conflicts. This is an event sponsored by the Boosters that brings about 800 people to the parish campus. Efforts will be made to avoid similar scheduling conflicts in the future.

Pastor's Corner: Fr Tim informed the members that:

- There will be a joint penance service with St. Thomas More parish next week. A similar service with both parishes will be scheduled at St. Bernadette during Lent.
- The Knights of Columbus will be holding a coat drive during the next two weekends.
- The CRHP program is being placed on hold for now. It will be continued in the future.

New Business:

- Sarah Holland asked about placing signage on the parish campus directing people to the St. Vincent DePaul food distribution center. Chairperson Dickhaus believed such signage would be helpful for the parish campus.
- Christina Boss asked about the current practice of mailing envelopes to parishioners every two months as opposed to having parishioners picking up a box of envelopes for the entire year. Chairperson Dickhaus replied that the current procedure was started some years ago with the belief that the bi-monthly delivery of envelopes would result in greater participation and that belief proved to be true, so the practice has been continued.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;">Next Meeting Wednesday January 3, 2018</p>

Approved: February 7, 2018

Recording Secretary Note: The January 3, 2018 meeting was cancelled.