

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 5, 2014

In Attendance: Bev Barnes (Chairperson), Sarah Holland, Rev. Bill Stockelman, Donna Cox, Paul Justice, John Dickhaus, Angie Tucker, Chuck Cullen (Recording Secretary)

Absent: Laura Brausch (excused)

Guest: Jeanie Stephens

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Chairperson Barnes.

Faith Formation: Father Bill handed out a reading from Isaiah and St. Matthew. Both readings made use of the word "light" to convey their messages. Members prayerfully reflected upon the readings.

Minutes: The minutes from the January 8, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

New Evangelization: Father Bill asked the Members for feedback from the presentation they attended on January 20th. Sarah Holland stated that the presentation went very fast and it was very different, not preachy. She noted that it was open and honest and focused on finding a better process. John Dickhaus said the presentation provided different opinions about spreading the Word. Chairperson Barnes said it was nice to get more ideas but concrete examples of what is working in other parishes would be helpful. Sarah Holland indicated that we as a parish must figure it out as we move forward. Angie Tucker reminded the Members that Father Bill has been informing the parish of the data regarding the Church.

Catholic Ministries Appeal: Father Bill presented a video made by the Archdiocese promoting the upcoming fund drive. He indicated that the parish has not reached its goal in recent years. The Members briefly discussed how to have members of the parish view the video.

Financial Overview: Members received a financial overview package that contained a 10-year summary of church and school revenue and expenses plus a summary of the last fiscal year. Last year, expenses exceeded revenue by \$46,000. This is an improvement from past years. The parish is projected to break even this fiscal year.

Discipleship Funding: The purpose of the parish is to change us according to Father Bill. The role of the Pastoral Council is to help us be more Catholic. If we are to be disciples of Jesus, then our efforts must reflect that. Father Bill then posed this question - Are adults getting what they deserve? The Members then discussed this topic at length. Paul Justice suggested that a survey be conducted to discover ways to serve more adults. Father Bill informed the Members of a program this Lenten season that will include prayer cards, reflection books, and bulletin inserts. Adding programs will increase expenses but Chairperson Barnes stated that there needs to be more funding

for adults in the parish. There was general consensus that the parish will support funding for a specific project.

Pastor's Corner: Father Bill informed the Members that a parishioner recently experienced a sudden, radical change in his health status and will now require on-going medical treatments. A fundraiser for the parishioner has not received a lot of publicity from the parish because organizers believe it will be sold out. For that reason the parish has been publicizing the Mardi Gras event.

Parish Voice: Angie Tucker reported on her investigation into the installation of curtains for the church windows. She contacted Dana Baker who informed her that traditional curtains would defeat the purpose of the windows. Reflective solar panels were suggested as an option but they are expensive. Changing the mass time is also an option.

Chairperson Barnes reported hearing a lot of positive things related to the upcoming benefit for the parishioner. This event has put St. Bernadette in a positive light throughout the area. Angie Tucker suggested that this event may provide an opportunity to publicize the community outreach work at St. Bernadette but the Council agreed that the family should be advised prior to submitting any articles for publication.

Adjournment: After Fr. Bill led the members in reciting the Hail Mary, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson Barnes at 8:43 PM.

Please note: Next meeting will be Wednesday March 12 at 7:00 PM.

Approved March 12, 2014

Charles Cullen, Recording Secretary