

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 7, 2018

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

Absent:

Guest:

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

Faith Formation/Opening Prayer: Patty Pryor opened with a prayer asking for God's help so that Council can have meaningful discussion and to grow closer as a group as we pursue the truth. The prayer was followed by the reading of Ephesians 4:1-16. That passage presented the "seven unities" of the Church (one God, one Lord, one Spirit, one Church, one hope, one faith, and one baptism). It also stressed the diversity of the gifts given to us by Christ's grace and the harmony that exists within Christ.

The members began to express their reaction to the reading. Patty Pryor said that the reading spoke to what we are supposed to be doing and what the Church should do to become one with the body of Christ. Chairperson Dickhaus concurred with her assessment. Sarah Holland mentioned that sometimes we must hit "rock bottom" before we can rise to the top. Even Christ had to come down to us. Christina Boss thought that the reading had many messages. The first few lines, she indicated, are instructions for life ("with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love"). Jeff Racic reflected how St. Paul had greatness but showed humility by never wanting to take credit for the work he did.

Minutes: The minutes from the December 6, 2017 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Ministry Weekend: Sarah Holland updated the members on the upcoming Ministry Weekend scheduled for February 24th and 25th. She will continue to contact the various ministry leaders. A bulletin mention will be prepared and submitted.

Lenten Activities: -Fr. Tim informed the members of a number of important Lenten activities for the parish. They included:

- Fish Frys will be held on four consecutive Fridays beginning February 16th. The times are 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm.
- Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday beginning at 7:30 pm.
- "The Light Is On For You" program (Sacrament of Reconciliation) will be on February 27th this year from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.
- A communal penance service in conjunction with St. Thomas More will be held at our parish on Tuesday March 13th beginning at 7:30 pm. Six priests will be available.
- Fr. Tim will be hearing confessions before Sunday masses (8:15 am-8:45 am and 10:15 am-10:45 am)
- Easter Vigil mass will begin at 8:30 pm on Saturday March 31st.
- The "Seven Deadly Sins – Seven Lively Virtues" program will be held each Monday evening beginning on February 19 at 7:00 pm.
- A small group opportunity on FORMED.ORG called "A Lent To Remember" is available for parishioners.

Jeff Racic asked if there was anything the members of Council could do to promote confessions. Fr. Tim mentioned that encouraging people could be helpful. Other members suggested placing or distributing cards with instructions on how to perform an examination of conscience could also be helpful.

Update Items: Chairperson Dickhaus announced that:

- Chuck Cullen is the new Scrip Coordinator
- Carol Yurek has taken over the leadership role with the Bereavement Ministry.
- He will be meeting with SHP Architects to develop plans for the school bathrooms, two adjacent classrooms, possible administrative space, and addressing accessibility issues.
- There is still room for people to attend the parish Mardi Gras event on Saturday February 10, 2018.

One Faith One Hope One Love Update: Chuck Cullen distributed a document highlighting the on-going capital campaign of the Archdiocese. He indicated that, after three years, the parish is about to meet its goal of \$580,000. After that time, the parish will receive a 60% of all collections.

School Update: John Dickhaus told the members about:

- Open House that was held at the beginning of Catholic School Week. He mentioned the excellent job done by the teachers.
- Another Open House in conjunction with the annual Easter Egg Hunt will be conducted on Sunday March 18th from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. It will focus on the K-3 grades.
- The installation of additional security equipment (cameras and panic button).

Pastor's Corner: Fr Tim announced:

- A company has been selected for the parish photo directory. The directory will be ready in time for the parish's 75th anniversary in 2019.
- As part of that anniversary, the Archbishop will celebrate the 11:00 am mass on Sunday June 2, 2019.
- The annual census count conducted each October indicates a 6% increase in attendance at St. Bernadette between 2007 and 2017.

New Business:

- Paul Justice said that many of the kneelers in the church should be adjusted. Jeff Racic suggested that the Knights of Columbus may be able to perform that work. He also mentioned that the organization may be able to donate some funds to pay for a project.
- Sarah Holland mentioned the green markings in many of the pews.
- Chairperson Dickhaus asked the members to begin thinking about parishioners who could serve as a booth leader for the festival. Several long-time volunteers are no longer available. Also, a new festival Chair will be needed in the near future.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Meeting
Wednesday March 7, 2018 (meeting cancelled)

Approved: April 4, 2018