

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday May 9, 2018

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

Absent: John Kelly, Paul Justice

Guest:

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairperson John Dickhaus.

Faith Formation/Opening Prayer: Christina Boss read from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians 2:5-11. Those verses encourage the followers of Christ to adapt the same humble and obedient attitude of Christ which was rewarded by God. Christina mentioned that St. Paul was writing to Greco-Roman society where a person would exult oneself and pursue self-interests. Paul's letter offers a different approach for the early Christians. Jeff Racic commented that in the past, we had a more reverent view of the world, a view that is no longer as common. Christina Boss then asked the members to consider what they might gain and lose when they follow Christ's example, not just what they might lose if they don't. Patty Pryor noted that our contemporary definition of success is not the same as the biblical definition of success.

Minutes: The minutes from the April 4, 2018 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Parish Picnic: The Council selected Sunday September 16th for the annual parish picnic. The event will start at 4 p.m. with food served at 5 p.m.

Festival Update: Chairperson Dickhaus discussed festival information to those present who are booth leaders. Jeff Racic informed the members that the grand prize of the raffle will be either \$20,000 in cash or a three-year lease of a car of the winner's choice (up to \$500/month) plus \$2,000 to cover taxes.

Youth Ministry Update: Fr. Tim announced that St. Bernadette has been selected to receive two seminarians who will organize and lead a new youth program for the next two years starting in the fall of this year. The parish will provide each seminarian a small stipend and cover operational expenses. The program will initially focus on junior high school students then expand to high school. The seminarians will be at St. Bernadette on June 2 and 3 to introduce the program to the parish.

Catholic Rural Life Conference: Fr. Tim informed the members that St. Bernadette, as a member of the St. Martin Deanery, is also member of the Catholic Rural Life Conference. Besides several meetings each year, the group has a farm mass each year. Fr. Tim asked the members for suggestions of parishioners who might be interested in representing St. Bernadette.

SEM Food Pantry: Fr. Tim relayed information about this organization that provides food for those in need. Several local churches are part of this group. They are looking for food donations. Fr. Tim and the members of Council expressed concerns about possible adverse impact on the parish's St. Vincent DePaul Society food pantry. Jon Dickhaus will discuss this with SVDP leaders.

Update Items: Chairperson Dickhaus announced that:

- SHP (Architectural firm) is developing school enhancement plans intended to enhance restroom accessibility, student safety, and educational enrichment.
- Matt Brunner has agreed to work with long-term parishioners to create a video history of the parish.
- Fr. Tim distributed copies of a history of the parish. This document could serve as a starting point for an updated version.

Pastor's Corner: Fr Tim announced:

- Deacon Jarred Kohn, who has spent some time this past year at St. Bernadette, will be ordained later this month. He will preside over the 9:00 AM mass of Sunday June 10th.
- Another Deacon will spend time at St. Bernadette starting in the fall.
- Based upon the pledges received, the parish exceeded its goal for the 2018 Catholic Ministry Appeal.
- Two missionaries were at St. Bernadette last weekend to introduce a new week-long Vacation Bible School program (Totus Tuus) for this upcoming summer.

New Business: No new business was presented.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

**Next Meeting
Thursday June 7, 2018**

Approved: June 7, 2018