

# Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday September 3, 2014

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

**Absent:** None

**Guest:** None

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**Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairperson Barnes.

**Faith Formation:** With the upcoming election for Pastoral Council, Paul Justice presented the account of how the disciples elected a replacement for Judas. Peter wanted someone who had been a long-time disciple of Jesus so he could be a witness to the entire ministry of the Lord. After much prayer, Matthias was chosen not for what he was, but for what he could be.

The members reflected upon the story of Matthias' election. Members spoke of how God doesn't call the qualified but He qualifies those He calls. Even Pope Francis indicates that he must be evangelized. Serving on the Pastoral Council is a privilege and it is important to pray that the right people are chosen. Those elected will help with the transition to a new pastor. A diverse group will better enable the parish to move forward.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the August (July 30, 2014) meeting were approved as revised.

**Election Update:** Chairperson Barnes reviewed the upcoming election schedule. Nominations will be taken the weekend of September 6-7. Members of the Council will distribute nomination forms at all masses. Those nominated will be contacted afterwards to confirm their commitment. Those nominated will submit a revised questionnaire along with a bio for publication. Elections will take place on the weekend of October 4-5.

**School Report:** Fr. Bill reported that there are 191 enrolled at the school this year with three new teachers and one new aide. Several technology and security upgrades are now in place. Even with the security improvements made, more are being considered.

**Network of Care Concept:** Sarah Holland presented the case for a new ministry to be part of the parish. Essentially, it is envisioned as a service that would provide some meals for those parishioners who have such a need. The concept evolved from a parishioner who had an accident, needed assistance, but was unable to receive any. While the exact organization of the ministry is not established, it could be that one person is responsible for a network of groups. The groups would take turns providing meals. The program is not being established to provide other services but individuals may volunteer to provide other services.

Realistic expectations will need to be established for this proposed parish project along with program guidelines. This ministry could provide a way for people who want to get involved in the parish but don't know how to help. The next step is to present some preliminary information about the program in an upcoming bulletin.

**Archdiocesan Capital Campaign:** Father Bill reminded the members of the capital campaign to commence in the near future. He asked the members to think about people who could play key roles and suggestions for use of the funds that will be returned to St. Bernadette. Fr. Bill announced that more information will be coming soon.

**Pastor's Corner:** Father Bill reported:

- The parish ended the fiscal year (7/1/13 – 6/30/14) \$50,000 in the black. This is the second year that the parish had a positive year-end cash flow.
- Preliminary results indicate that the parish festival generated \$195,000 in gross revenue and netted about \$106,000. Moreover, the festival was a positive activity for the entire community.

**Parish Voice:** Chairperson Barnes reported some planning delays for the parish picnic. While the event had been published in the bulletin, sign-up sheets had not been posted. The members agreed to change the date to September 28.

Paul Justice and Sarah Holland informed the members of two parishioners who recently enlisted in the armed services.

Sarah Holland mentioned that some assistance is needed for the babysitting service being offered during the 11:00 AM mass.

Angie Tucker asked about status of a refrigerator. John Dickhaus reported that the refrigerator is no longer serviceable and will be replaced.

Fr. Bill and the members discussed a document prepared by Fr. Bill concerning the mission of St. Bernadette parish. Fr. Bill asked the members what kind of parish do we want to be? How do we get there? How do we allocate our resources? How do we manage without a full-time priest?

Chairperson Barnes was congratulated by all for her service to the Council.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

**Please note: The Council will next meet on Wednesday October 1, 2014.**

Approved: October 1, 2014