

Church of St Patrick

Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes

November 27, 2018

Attendees: Members: Jane Marie Rief, Chris Bravo, Andrea Sherman Johnson, Demetri Zepeda, Joan Robertson, Rob Madden, Mary McCahey, Tony Sporer, Mary Sethre, Jan Preiner; Staff: Cindy Reckinger (Parish Administrator), Fr. Brian Fier (Pastor); Trustees: Judy LeMire, Doug Fangmeier

Prayer: The meeting opened with prayer.

Parish News update:

- A. The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) meeting will be held in Shamrock Hall. The meeting minutes will be posted online and in the rack with the bulletins. The agenda will also be published in the bulletin.

Parish Leadership Document reflection part 1:

- A. The PPC will look at other structures from other parishes.
- B. The parish administrator will check with the Archdiocese for guidance.
- C. It was recommended that the PPC invite a PPC chairperson from the Church of St. Edwards to speak at a meeting regarding their leadership document.
- D. It was suggested we look at our own parish history and previous changes that have been successful.

Funeral luncheon discussion:

- A. The funeral luncheon costs discussion was referred to the Finance Commission. No changes have been made yet. The PPC will be asking for an update at next meeting.

Finance Council report:

- A. October and November contributions were down from what was budgeted.
- B. Shamrock Hall rental is down. There are only 3 weddings scheduled this next year.
- C. The bank loan agreement will be modified. For December, January and February we will be allowed to make an interest payment only. This will help with budget shortfall.
- D. There have been 403 pledge cards returned with total pledges of \$582,000. This is down about \$17,000 from last year. Aria will start making calls this next week to those who have not returned pledge cards.

Parish Administrator report:

- A. The parish administrator announced the resignation of Jeff Reich, the lead facilities engineer. His last day will be December 14th.
- B. The job will be posted with the Archdiocese and in the bulletin. Deadline for submitting an application is December 28th.
- C. If anyone knows of anyone interested in the position, please contact the parish administrator.

We adjourned to rejoin the other Parish Commissions at 8:25.

Parish Commissions highlights:

1) Parish Life and Social Justice: The Giving Tree project is in full swing. All donations will be delivered December 17th. Parish life will serve meals at Dorothy Day once a month. In February donations for travel size toiletries will be collected. All donations will be distributed to Higher Ground.

2) Worship Commission: A second tabernacle and a three-foot crucifix will be added in the chapel. The Blessed Sacrament will be reserved in the chapel on weekdays, and then in the church on weekends. For all Masses in the church the sacristan will be bringing Communion to those who cannot walk up to receive. The head usher will direct the sacristan to these communicants.

3) Faith Formation Commission: The St. Nicholas Workshop included 52 vendors raising \$3400 and the children's sale \$1600. There were 16 people who participated in the Walk to End Hunger on Thanksgiving morning. They raised \$600. There were 36 shoeboxes donated and delivered for Operation Christmas Child. The FF Commission also discussed an Advent Retreat, Lenten Retreat, Mardi Gras potluck, and a Seder meal.

4) Saint Pat's Youth Advisory Committee: The next mission trip will be to South Carolina on June 16th to assist with the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. There are also plans for the Winter Blast. A group will be heading to the Maple Grove Community Center. Also, the bake sale will be held December 22nd and 23rd.

5) Finance Council: The council's focus is on increasing cash flow and decreasing expenses. They are working with the bank on revamping loan.

The Parish Leadership Document reflection part 2:

The PPC reconvened at 8:30 to discuss the St. Edward's leadership document. This will be an ongoing discussion at our 2018/2019 meetings. St Edwards is a larger parish than ours (approximately 1300 families as compared to our 1000 families). They hired a Jesuit priest to come and work with their parish over three years to develop and implement their organizational plan.

We are prayerfully considering this and know that we will need to customize it for St Patrick's. We expect that some will be eager for change and some will resist change. It will be tough to balance enough research with carefully planned action in the hope that we can implement changes for the 2019/2020 program year.

We discussed how our current organization differs from St. Edwards. For example, we don't have an Administration/Buildings and Grounds Commission; and, our Social Justice Commission is combined with Parish Life. The goal is to have all parish ministries working with and accountable to a parish commission; thus, we will begin to categorize all our ministries under one of the parish commissions to see where the lines of reporting would fall. We have much to do. Action items include: 1) prayerfully look at what other churches have done, 2) ask for a member of St Edward's PPC to speak to us about their journey, and 3) look at our own history as we plan and discern our path forward.

Our meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.