



Minutes
Parish Pastoral Council
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Monday, October 28, 2019

Present: Father Stan Mader, Tom Konrardy, Ute Palm, Beth Kalb, Kenny Buesgens, Patrick Witherow, Mark Vogel (by phone),

Trustee: Amy Williams

Parish Administrator: Bonnie Delaney

Scribe: Kathy Witherow

Agenda Items:

Gather Time. Members introduced themselves.

Prayer: Father read next Sunday's reading and led the group in a discussion. Comments and questions may be used to inform the homily.

Orientation:

Documents were distributed electronically before the meeting. Additional paper copies were available at the meeting. These documents are meant as context and information/background for members to consider in future discussions.

Task: Going forward, Tom will distribute documents via email and members will print their own.

Demographic data: Several tables/graphs were distributed. This data is a starting point. Question: Is the growth of the parish reflective of the growth of Waconia? Carver County is the fastest growing county in the state. Waconia population has increased by double digits. St. Joe membership has been relatively flat, similar to other parishes. Nationally: 26-29% of Catholics attend mass regularly, meaning once a month or more. Tom recommended looking at a recent Pew Study. [www.pewresearch.org] Data distributed gives a snapshot of what's happening.

Question: do we know the # and/or % of parishioners who volunteer? 250+ parishioners have gone through Christ Renews. Father: estimates 20% of those attending on the weekends have been through Christ Renews.

Ministry Guide: This is the document that is used for folks to sign up for volunteer activities. Everyone who joins the parish gets a guide.

Foundation/Vision: Tom described the background/history of this document. This group will be revisiting this document.

Annual Planning calendar: Operationally, we are in the present year but planning for the following year. The PPC will not worry about this fiscal year, but will be visionary for the next fiscal year. The PPC will also need to think about 5, 10 15 years out. Synod will also inform the PPC and Parish visioning. By June or July 2020, we will have topics for reflection from the Archdiocese.

Coalition Notes: Several parishioners were pulled together in the past year to discuss, among other things, what do we want the PPC to be? Many suggestions that came out of that meeting are being implemented for this group now. If we feel that is an important vehicle moving forward, someone from the PPC may be asked to lead another coalition.

Council Summaries: Parish Council summaries were distributed ahead of time. Summaries will be regularly distributed for information and review prior to PPC meetings.

Essential Three:

Bonnie distributed required paperwork for the members. Parish staff, and PPC members are required to complete the Essential Three as per Archdiocese policy/requirements. Bonnie will send out information on live training sessions in Waconia and in nearby parishes. Members are asked to sign back on to Virtus website and indicate that you are an employee. Bonnie will assist those who have trouble with the site.

Tasks: *Make sure your account is ready to go. Sign code of conduct. Enroll in a Live training session. If there are questions, contact Bonnie.*

Parish Updates:

Financial: Father Stan distributed a financial report (statement of financial position) and dashboard. Bonnie puts this together monthly for the Finance Council. Finance Council will pay attention to the details, but PPC should know where things stand with the budget. Annual budget is ~ 2M. In the future, the PPC will have occasional combined meetings around specific topics.

Changes in the school structure: Updates have been announced in the bulletin. Father distributed background information on Healy. Father distributed a draft of the operating principles of St. Joseph School Board. Rob Bell has been hired as Advancement Director, a position that is required by being a Healey model school, and for which we will be receiving funding for most of his first year in this position. The Healey Foundation will help our school in selecting member of the board, 1/3 of whom will be parents, and the rest not be parents of children in the school. There will be standing committees to do work to take the load off of the principal and the pastor. There will also be 18 months of training with the board to get us launched. The program is designed to be a buffer if there is a change in a principal or pastor so success is not dependent on individual leaders. The board will be put together beginning in January. Meetings will begin shortly after. Training will take place over the next 18 months. This is a transition from our current school board model and driven by the foundation, which has been very successful in the places they've invested in. Nationally, 80% of schools in this program have shown significant improvement in attendance and school performance. Beth Kalb is interested in being the liaison for this group.

160,000 volunteer hour parish challenge. Parish is 160 years old. Father Stan is looking for ways to reinforce the concept of service. People will be asked to track their hours. Service is to the community as well as to the church. Suggestion was made to model the Knights of Columbus form for tracking the hours of service. The parish is looking for places

within community and county to partner with. Love, Inc. is an example. November 10 sermon will be stewardship talk/commitment. Father reminded the group of past talks that centered on know-love-serve and time-talent-treasure. This will be an ongoing rotation. Financial drive and volunteer sign up go hand in hand.

7 essential elements of parish life

What does canon law say that a Parish ought to do? Father distributed a document that was highlighted the main components.

-Worship. What ways of worship do we allow/promote here? Adoration, rosary, etc

-Word. How do we use scripture? How do we build up people's knowledge of scripture. Homily, RICA, small groups?

-Community. How do we support each other and celebrate as a community?

-Service. Need to get the church outside of the church. 160,000 project is part of social justice, outreach.

-Leadership. Certain things a pastor has to be responsible for but its also identifying and recognizing and bringing forth leadership in parishioners. This PPC is a big part of that. This is the primary advisory group on pastoral matters.

-Stewardship. How do we use our time, talent and treasure?

-Evangelization. Need to spread the good news.

There will be in-depth discussion on these in future meetings. Members may be asked to do research or outside reading or be involved in a coalition around various topics.

Operational Items

Liaison assignment: tabled until next meeting. Please pray about that and discern where you are feeling called.

Vice chair: tabled until next meeting.

Next meeting: Monday December 2. No meeting in late December.