

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting

April 19, 2017



Pastoral Council In Attendance: Fr. Bill Burkert, Lucy Birschbach, Jackie Dombrowski, Mary Beth Javorek, Brad Julga, Roger Julga, Candy Krepel, Pat McKay, Brian Neal, Judeen Schulte, Cathie Slater, Chuck Thimmesch

Not Present: Nancie Chmielewski, Dave Hansen, Brian Neal, Judeen Schulte

Prayer: Chuck Thimmesch led the Prayer.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Bill is backing off of some of his duties so that Nancie Chmielewski can step in and take on more responsibilities in the upcoming transition. He has been sitting out from Communion to leave a space open for Nancie. He has also noticed that the attendance at all Masses has seemed better in the last few weeks. The Easter Vigil was very well attended with a full house.

A copy of the Archdiocese's description of the Parish Director Duties was distributed. The handout reinforces that if the Priest is unable to officiate Mass, the Parish Director may step in.

Finance Council: Chuck Thimmesch reported that he forwarded the minutes to all. We are still ahead of last year's contributions for this same time frame, the previous year. Last fiscal year, February through May, revenue was down. We are watching to see that this isn't a trend. We have dropped about \$6000.00 since February. Although the Committee is not too concerned at this time, Committee members will monitor it.

Thimmesch reported on a number of items related to Building and Grounds. The Security System has been upgraded and is operational throughout. The windows upgrade in various rooms needs updated bids, due to building structural issues and some asbestos in those areas. Room 10 is being remodeled with a small kitchenette, to be used for small events. The existing cabinets have been removed and the demolition has started. Budget has been approved at \$30k by the Finance Council and allocation of funds has been discussed but not agreed upon at this time.

Formation: Nothing to report other than Mary Osep retiring and will finish up with the GIFT Session the weekend of April 30th.

Discipleship Institute: The Committee is getting the different programs together right now. In September, there will be more training for the Ambassadorship program. The Committee wants to put together a page like the advertisements on the back of the bulletin about the different ministries with a small blurb explaining what they do and who to contact if interested in joining.

Liturgy: Nothing to report

Social Justice: Pat McKay reminded everyone about Earth Day. The Bulletin insert for April 29-30th will be *Earth Day Every Day* and will include a list of Earth Friendly activities that families can do. On behalf of the Social Justice Committee, Phil Pares and Brad Julga are planting a tree in the South West corner of the parking lot area at 9 AM on the 29th. It will be a Prairie Fire Crabapple tree. Pat McKay will see if Marc Puechner can put an announcement on the screens.

Parish Life Committee: Lucy Birschbach has volunteered to take on this ministry. She will be the liaison for people to come to when they have questions or needs. We passed around a list to get the different names of the groups and people that head them up. Some of that information is also in the parish directory.

Southwest Deanery: Brad Julga said for the Southwest Deanery meeting on April 26 he needs three things to discuss at the meeting. The Council suggested discussing DACA, the Election Information that we provide, and the Collaborative Mission that OLOL along with St. Alphonsus and others in the area did together on Good Friday. Brad mentioned that often our church is well known among the others for some of the things that we do.

Phil Pares had handed out a brochure on Elevate, a program that works with substance abuse. He has been very involved with counseling people that deal with family and friends that are hooked on drugs and alcohol. This is an epidemic that has hit more people in the community that we are aware of. It is something that people need to talk about rather than be ashamed of it. The parish will offer an informational session on it in the near future.

Review of Goals

1. ***Transitioning as we change the Pastoral Leadership for 2017-18.*** Have we been talking to constituents about it and bringing awareness to the parish?
2. ***Collaborating with Finance to incorporate pastoral priorities.*** We need to find out who needs, and who doesn't need funding, for their ministries.
3. ***Collaborate with other parish groups, such as Cross Lutheran or Green Corners.*** Phil and Brad have been involved, but we haven't been as involved with Cross Lutheran. This is a continuing goal.

We talked about the violence and abuses in our own community. Many people are unaware of what is happening in our own area, not just in "other" areas. We brainstormed on how to get the word out about things that are happening all areas, such as Sexting, Human Trafficking, Opioid Abuse, etc. Should we use the screens in church to bring attention to some of these things. We agreed that if we are going to set goal, we need to start the little projects to get them done, not just talk about them.

Archdiocese has rules on our terms and want to know who is going to be here for the next term or not. Candy Krepel said she will be leaving but will continue to report on Liturgy. Fr. Bill reminded everyone that they should be doing another ministry besides Pastoral Council.

Prayer for next meeting- Brad Julga

Respectfully submitted, Mary Beth Javorek