



*St. John the Evangelist
Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
Monday, October 10, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.*

Quorum – Two-thirds of the Parish Council voting Membership was present.

Members Present:

Msgr. Michael Becker	Mark Krepich	Christina Berardinelli	James Campbell
Robert Olson	Fran Semelsberger	Wally Wargo	Heather Nackley
Diane Turcovsky	Cecelia Bloom	Cynthia Karcher	Christopher Palazzi
Patrick Podoletz	Mary Lee Madigan Davis	Debbie Johnson	Mary Ann Mirobelli
Mary Haenig			

Members Absent: Deacon Gene Neral

1. Prayer & Opening

- 2. Approval of minutes from last meeting** – Prior to approval, Diane Turcovsky asked for clarification of the NHS playground space. Msgr. informed us that it is to be 24’x60’ and will likely be installed below the rectory. Equipment is being stored at Mt. Carmel and its construction is the responsibility of NHS. Bob Olson moved to accept the minutes and Cynthia Karcher seconded the motion.

3. Old Business

Parish finances- Our Holy Trinity School assessment is expected to be \$160,000. This is to be paid in 10 installments to the diocese. \$250,000 was spent for St. John’s school last year. The diocese has determined that the expense for HTS needs to be spread to all the parishes, not just those with a school, as was the case previously. Our annual assessment is anticipated to decrease next year, and will be based on the number of families in our parish. Mary Ann Mirobelli reports that the diocese has not charged interest for unpaid debt historically. The St. John’s teachers did file for and collect unemployment, which has been charged to our parish, but we may not be expected to pay this portion. While our debts are great, Monsignor stated that other parishes have even greater debt.

4. New Business

a) Ideas for moving the parish forward, past the school closing:

- Bob Olson recommended that a census be taken. Mary Ann Mirobelli and Diane Ryan are compiling a list of active and inactive members gathered during the Parish Directory project. Mary Ann states that the census should be complete within the next 4-6 weeks. The goal is to update and maintain the census on a regular basis
- Bob also suggested that we need to redefine who we are and where we are going as a parish.
- The Bishop will be coming 11/7/16 for the Ecumenical Conference focused on the family. People from other faiths and the community will attend.
- Cynthia Karcher suggested that educational programs for those 55+ be presented in our parish office, cafeteria, or Father Bailey Hall. The

presentations would be open to the public, as well as all parishioners within our diocese. Topics suggested include: The Medicare Donut Hole; Part D coverage; Protecting Your Identity; Cyber Security; Health and Wellness; Financial and/or Will Planning; Legal Considerations for those 55+, etc. Cynthia, Jim Campbell and Bob Olson all agreed to present in their areas of expertise. Tom Weimer and Chris Ringkamp were also suggested as speakers. Mark Krepich recommended that Family Life spearhead and advertise with flyers in the bulletins of churches within the diocese, as well as the newspaper. General agreement was for a once a month format. Heather agreed to work on this through Family Life.

- Diane Turcovsky suggested an All Soul's Day candle ceremony on 11/2/16. An insert could be placed in the bulletin (next week) with a "tear off" portion that could be filled out and returned in the collection basket that contains the name of a deceased loved one. A family member could light a candle at the beginning of mass on 11/2/16, and the lights could be dimmed for effect at the conclusion of mass. Diane agreed to compose the flyer and provide it for inclusion in the bulletin.
- Pat Podoletz asked the status of the Alpha program. Discussion also included the book Divine Restoration, Disciples in Mission and the program What On Earth Am I Here For? All are adult, small group discussion based books or programs, whose goal is to increase community and faith sharing.
- Chris Palazzi suggested that we might add a Lent/Easter musical concert, similar to the Advent concert.
- Debbie, Fran, Cecelia and Mary Lee have met and assessed the appearance of the Gathering Space and how to use it most efficiently. It was decided that there is too much in it, and it is not well organized. This committee plans to meet again, remove all contents, discard some items and reorganize for efficiency, appearance, flow and maximum impact.
- It was suggested that people on the prayer list people be sent a Get Well card. The cards can be made available for parishioners to sign once per month on a table in the Gathering Space. Ginny Reeder keeps the prayer list updated.

5. Committee Reports

- a) **Religious Education** – Mary Haenig reports that religious education is going well, with visiting speakers for the Confirmation aged students. Children's Liturgy began this past Sunday and was attended by a dozen children. Mary hopes to provide once per month, and in the future develop a team to carry out a weekly children's liturgy.
- b) **Family Life** – No report
- c) **Finance** – No report
- d) **Haiti** – Mary Lee reports that while no structures were damaged at Sts Peter and Paul, all crops were destroyed. There are food shortages, and the 2nd Sunday food collection this month will be allocated to Haiti. All the desks have been funded. Father Banive has provided a great spiritual environment for the parishioners, but he may be transferred to another location.

- e) **Liturgy** –A Penance service is planned for the 1st Sunday of December in the afternoon. Planning for holiday services is also taking place.
- f) **Maintenance** – Removal of plants and the St. John’s building architectural model from the Gathering Space was discussed. Monsignor informed us that due to water saturated grass in the gravel parking area near the cafeteria, drainage and sidewalks need to be installed this Fall. Monsignor has spoken to Dave Auerbeck about this project.
- g) **Social** – Cynthia Karcher reports that a Wine & Cheese social will take place after the 4pm mass on 11/19/16, hosted by Jan and Dave Andrews, as well as the Karchers. The event is open to all adult members of the parish, and new parishioners will be invited. An Ugly Sweater party (or some other name) will take place December 17th. It will be a covered dish event for adults only.
- h) **Stewardship** –Monsignor will be speaking at The Feast of Christ the King 11/20/16 homily on sacrificial giving. Pamphlets may be utilized to help people evaluate what they are currently giving, what their contribution should be based upon tithing and how to set goals to increase giving. He will emphasize the financial challenges we face as a parish and tie it to gratitude and prayer at Thanksgiving. A pledge may be asked for and lay people who tithe may speak at mass.
- i) **Youth Group** – Pat Podoletz reports that the Youth Group completed the first of five meetings on 9/25/16 titled Homeless Encounter. The youth are also hosting a breakfast for seniors of our parish on 10/16/16. Parish council members are also invited.
- j) **Samaritan** – Susanna Tomlinson (via Cecelia) asked permission to send \$300 to each of 7 different social service agencies to feed the poor. Monsignor made a motion to approve, and Mark Krepich seconded the motion. The Angel Tree will go up 11/19/16 and students and volunteers are needed to help sort and organize the gifts on 12/16/16. The school students historically did this job. The next Love Feast is 10/22/16.
- k) **Women’s Group** – Cecelia reports that our parish is collecting for Toasty Toddlers, a Family Resource Center project. Dates are: 11/10/16-12/9/16. Monsignor suggested the Women’s Group consider organizing a trip to Sight and Sound.
- l) **Adult Education** – Monsignor Becker reports that he has just finished one series at Adult Ed and will begin a John The Baptist video and discussion series that will lead up to Advent. Parish Council members were given Living Your Strengths book and asked to complete the survey and bring nametag with top 5 strengths to the next meeting. Father Dennis Mullen will be with us next week for a retreat on the Year of Mercy. Diane Turcovsky made us aware of a day of prayer at Mt. Aloysius.

6. **Date for next meeting** – Monday, November 14, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

7. **Adjournment**