

## Pastoral Council Minutes—November 13, 2014

(Note: Time for each item indicates actual-time/allotted-time)

- 1) Call to Order at 7:17pm
- 2) Opening prayer and Discernment— Fr. John (15/10 min.)
- 3) Pastor's Report—Fr. John (25/5 min.)
  - a) The Long Range Planning report has been turned over to the bishop. Fr. John will be writing a report for publication in next week's parish bulletin. What ought to be placed on the web-site? We will try to post a summary (less detail and without monetary figures for now) of the full report by the end of this year.
  - b) Our deficit is a little better than last year. Brenda Terry's concert netted \$1,600.
  - c) Children's Liturgy of the Word is going well at both churches with 25-35 children. Kids Church at MQP has also been successful, although numbers were a bit down last week, possible due to the Veteran's day holiday period.
  - d) The 5pm Sunday mass at St. Joseph is up to about 50 people, and had close to 100 last Sunday with the Family Faith Formation attendees. We will be getting a count from the ushers to see if we have grown at all in numbers of church goers
- 4) Old Business:
  - a) Homily/Music Themes Refresher--Fr. Tom (10/5 min.)

This past month, Fr. John and Fr. Bill did some preaching on the "Politics" theme, and all three priests are ready for the "Evangelization" theme scheduled for Advent. The Arts and Environment committee plans to have a banner ready for each church by next week. The banner will carry the title "Growing as Disciples of Jesus", and will present a heart surrounded by six symbols for the six pieces of the Christian pie-chart. Each month the chosen theme will be highlighted on the banner, which will be placed at the front of the Sanctuary at each church. Also, Fr. Tom will order a 5' x 3' color poster for the MQP narthex.
  - c). Website migration update, and new "Media Team"—Susan (10/10 min.)

The new media team of Susan, Christie, Lisa, Sue and Steve are trying to integrate the web-site, twitter, and Facebook pages. They are highlighting the music at our masses so people will know that we offer a variety of musical forms. We want to people to interact on our pages. Council members are asked to "retweet" Twitter posts and "like" Facebook content so that the word will spread. We currently have 10 followers on Twitter. All media pages are now listed in the bulletin. Pictures, videos, and "calls to action" get the most posts. The post of Kyle's singing engendered quite a few comments. Also, we want to promote Kid's Church more. The question was raised as to whether Facebook posts should be approved before going live, to prevent inappropriate posts.
  - d). Music—Music subcommittee's role, and discuss/evaluate MQP 9:30 Family Mass. (15/10 min.)

Fr. John will be defining the music subcommittee's role. It was suggested that perhaps the new focus of the Music Subcommittee may be the MQP 9:30 mass. Steve Barretto has resigned from the subcommittee, and a new member will hopefully volunteer at our next meeting.

MQP 9:30 Family Mass: Kyle is doing a great job, but he could use the support of other singers and musicians. The music has been a combination of contemporary music and traditional hymns. We may now want to move toward more contemporary music, though we want to give people time to learn the new music. There has been a problem with making the song sheets available to the congregation. We will try to have them handed out by the ushers, as well as a table that is prominently placed for people to take a sheet. We need to look forward to growing the group this year, as next year Kyle hopes to go away to college!

e) Workcamp 2016 Update—Chris (5/5 min.)

In the half hour meeting of Chris and Sue with Windham High administration, no answer was yet given on our using their facility. Sue left them with a video and other information. Windham is afraid of liability issues, but insurance is likely included in the Workcamp package. Windham will soon give us an answer. We could look also at other area high schools, such as Central Catholic or Pinkerton (at the furthest).

f) Parish Ministry Booklets chairpersons updates (5/5 min.)

Judi, Jan Childs and Diane/Al Cormier are updating the contact information. We should add the media team to the contact list. There are no remaining booklets, so new booklets will contain the updated information without need for inserts.

g) Lector Training Update—Christi (10/5 min.)

The great majority of the lectors attended the training, however, the lectors that needed training the most are still having a problem with things like emotion, pace, and volume. Do we want to give them regular feedback? We don't want to alienate people who are volunteering their time, and we don't have any unsatisfactory lectors. We could give informal feedback, regarding volume for example, if we give the feedback in a professionally constructive manner. A once a year workshop seems good.

h) Is the parish Mission Statement being read at all masses? (1/5 min.) Yes.

5) New Business:

a) Medjugorje witness (Ivan) to visit parish? Fr. Tom/Joan (parishioner) (0/10 ) Postponed to next month

b) Pastoral Council Retreat Small Group Follow-up (10/40 min.)

Discussion postponed. Council members will read reports from the three reports and prioritize the two or three ideas that we can accomplish in the short-term. We need to be very precise regarding where to put our time. We might think in terms of a timeline. Group leaders are asked to email their notes to all PC members for their review.

6) Other Business:

- a) Christmas Party at the Rectory, December 5<sup>th</sup>, now at 5:30 PM.
- b) Big-screen TV's: Postponed to next month.
- c) Witnessing at mass--Fr Tom (10/0 min.)

We have Fr. John's permission for 2-3 min. Witnesses would bear testimony at the end of the homily. Council members are asked to be on the lookout for potential witnesses. Fr. Tom will talk to Shawn McDonough about potential witnesses to the Steubenville East youth conference. The Advent "Evangelization" theme would lend itself to this witness.

- 7) Closing Prayer at 9:10pm