

**Saints Mary and Joseph Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
December 10th, 2015**

Call to Order: 7:18 PM

Absent: Susan, Justine

Opening Prayer: Christi

Progress Report of “old-business”: Judi had a handout, any questions folks can ask Judi for updates.

NEW BUSINESS:

Infusing the Pastoral Council with the Spirit of Christ: Fr. Tom had three handouts; handout by Sr. Kathleen Turley, Fr. Tom highlighted areas of importance. Fr. Tom also handed out Growing as Disciples of Jesus workflow as well as the Examine What God Wants prayer card.

Brainstorming - How do we get our parishioners to grow as disciples?

Growing as Disciples of Jesus workflow works on six components, how do we infuse all six components to create a thriving church, while following Pope Francis’ Joy of the Gospel? Mission oriented like Pope Francis; evangelize (can we use another word?) friends, neighbors. Things slow down in the summer, this time of year we need to brainstorm on how we can get the people to put the puzzle together to feel the joy of the gospel, how do we do this? What would Jesus do? We want to follow a ‘family based’ program as was introduced by the Diocese.

Some Ideas:

Use themes

Community Projects

Saturday Service Projects

Tweaking Faith Formation

Showing faith based videos to the children during Kids Church

Continue to try to start conversations with the parishioners

Make sure the homily is connecting to real life for people

Remember to thank the people for their: donations, food baskets, let them know the results of their donations

Post God sightings

Also, focus on the word evangelize, some people are afraid of the word, some people don't know what it means, can we use another word/term? People may view the term differently. Some people are actually evangelizing now, let's let them know what everyday things people are already doing so they will feel comfortable.

Action: Try to brainstorm and come up with ways we can evangelize.

Sanctuary time: stayed in meeting room due to choir rehearsal. Prayed on how to evangelize.

MQP 9:30 Mass: Did we resolve the issue by our discussion? Fathers need to make sure they are not late for mass. Music practice must be over by 9:30 (or before), mass must start at 9:30, offertory music should not go over time. If all these issues are tweaked, we could save 15 minutes!

Other Business: Lisa had the idea that maybe next year, at Salem's tree lightings (there are now 3) we could distribute homemade cookies in a baggie with a sticker of the church logo on it. Maybe we can do this for the Christmas eve, Christmas day masses or the Palm Sunday and Easter masses?

Closing Prayer—Tina

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 14th, 2016