

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
December 2, 2013

Pastoral Council Members in Attendance: Father Jim, Ron Bachy, Sue Buchholz, Arlene Gross, Paul Messineo, Mary Jo Meyer, Ted Novak, Joe Saxman. Christine Stinson

Finance Council Members in Attendance: Renae Brinza
Absent from Finance Council: Nick Bianchi, John Morenzi, John Parker

Others: Deacon Herb, Gerry Meyer

Opening Prayer by Fr. Jim

Old Business

- 1) Reconstitute Committees
 - Catechesis Committee – Sue Buchholz & Ted Novak
 - Evangelization/Hospitality Committee – Mary Jo Meyer & Joe Saxman
 - Stewardship Committee – Paul Messineo & Christine Stinson
 - Worship Committee – Ron Bachy & Arlene Gross

- 2) Evangelization meeting with Deacon Alex Wroblicky – Mary Jo
 - Deacon Wroblicky visited Monday, October 28, 2013
 - He described what evangelization is
 - He suggested a number of programs – Evangelization Committee to review and make recommendation at next meeting
 - A suggestion was made to use the holidays to bring people back to church
 - NOTE: Deacon Wroblicky has been reassigned.

- 3) Volunteer Sunday was held Sunday, October 13, 2013
 - It was a success! Approximately 24 people signed up for various committees/groups
 - We have a new cantor, new choir members, new Eucharistic ministers, new ushers, new people to help clean the church linens
 - Follow up with the new volunteers is being handled by the leader of the committee or group the volunteer was interested
 - It was decided to hold this event annually around the same time of year
 - It was also suggested to have a member of each committee/group at the event for a personal conversation with potential volunteers; or, a short detailed description of what the committee or group does.
 - Two surprises
 - People volunteered for more than one committee or group
 - People volunteered for unpopular tasks such as the funeral masses

- 4) Parish Revitalization Follow Up
 - Youth Music Ministry
 - It was decided by Father Jim and Thom to pursue event after the holidays

Action Item: Should we need backup organists, a suggestion was made that Tom should contact Duquesne University music school.

- Greeters prior to mass
 - Suggestions were to use altar servers parents and/or Extraordinary Ministers
 - Suggestion to also have a meeting with the greeters and the users

Action Items: Arlene to e-mail the Extraordinary Ministers and Sue to e-mail the parents of the altar servers. Sharon Parker should have the e-mail list of the parents of the altar servers.

- Publicize what we do as a church and the groups of our church
 - Update and jazz up the website
 - Use Facebook and make it more prominent
 - For example, the Ladies of Charity held a coat drive and collected 250 coats

Action Items: Joe to work with Cathy to reach more parishioners.

- Cafeteria renovated & updated
 - Suggestion to rent out the cafeteria as a hall
 - Suggestion to open a coffee shop in the side room of the cafeteria
- Bride Room, Cry Room and Usher Room
 - Suggestion to rearrange the rooms for better utilization
- A suggestion was made to put up a suggestion box so the parishioners have an avenue for input and to put something in the bulletin regarding this issue.

5) Thanksgiving Day Bread Handout

- It was a success with 150 loaves of bread being handed out
- Moving the mass to 10am increased the attendance numbers
- A special thank you to Sue & Frank Buchholz and Sue & Don Cwynar

6) Update on the Budget Shortfall

- The Parish is not going into debt
- All fundraisers after the new year will be incorporated into the budget and we will be assessed the 17% parish share tax
 - The fish fry fundraiser is doing well; hope to gain new and returning customers for Lent

New Business

7) Church Alive Campaign

- Our parish's campaign is January through April, 2014
- Our goal is \$600,000+ – we will receive 40% of every dollar donated
- Father Jim and Deacon Herb will meet on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 with the representative from the diocese to discuss the campaign and the strategic plan
- A lengthy discussion took place regarding the campaign

Action Items: Fr. Jim & Deacon Herb will get back to both councils regarding the strategic plan.

For the Good of the Parish

- 1) A suggestion was made to give a tour of the church to get people involved and interested

Next Meeting is Monday, March 3, 2014 at 6:30pm