

St. Joseph's Church Parish Council
March 23, 2015

Present: Rev. Peter Worn, Malcolm Bienvenu, Julie Brissette, Rosemary Carr, Carmella Dalton, John Ferguson, Robert Fiorelli, Karen Hopkins, Hannah Humphrey, David Kaminski, Dennis McGough, Lorraine Pigula, Susan Ross, Jane Sylvester, Al Thompson

Excused: Patricia Butler, Nancy Light, Grainger Sasso

Guests:

At 6:30 pm, President Dennis McGough called the Parish Council meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Susan Ross

Approve Parish Council minutes

November 2014 Parish Council meeting minutes; motion to approve as written: Susan Ross/Julie Brissette; unanimously approved

Rebuilt Church

Discussion: Chapters 6-9

- Video clips for all chapters are on the website
- Music ministry
- Upper Room
- Research demographics on people who have left
- Parish is doing many of the things in the book
- Community
- Lost people – problem is larger than our parish; global Catholic problem
- Youth perspective – many 20 & 30 year olds feel disconnected; personal stories inspire people to think about their faith (NCYC); ask parishioners to share their faith stories with others – incorporate into Mass, other events, create opportunities; people need to discover their faith for themselves
- Difficult to identify people who stop attending Mass because of the number of Masses offered
- Ch. 9 – small groups; experience of participating in a small group is profound
- Longtime parishioner – proud of our parish; advocate for small group experience; music ministry
- Young people are getting lost, especially following college graduation
- Lack of men entering the seminary is symptomatic
- Consider establishing a network to contact people who leave the parish
- Need to get back to participating in a small group

Do we need to schedule additional meetings to discuss this book? No

CARA – Center for Advanced Research in the Apostolate

Consider commissioning a study in the future

Suggestion follow up: form a small group to focus on reaching out to lost people and address 'churchworld'

Assignment for May 2015 meeting: Ch. 10-14

Business Items

Bylaws discussion: move election of officers from June to September; consensus to leave election of officers in June

Pastor's Comments

- Rev. David James has accepted a part-time position at St. Joseph's Church; responsibilities will include, but not be limited to: Masses, sacraments, homebound ministry, youth ministry
- Christmas schedule worked well; may move 6:00 pm Mass to 6:30 pm to alleviate congestion between Masses
- Volunteer appreciation event was a huge success; commended the staff for organizing a wonderful event
- St. Ellen's reception was a big success; no plans to fill Ellen's position; Ellen has been helping out with Lent, Holy Week planning and funerals; analyzing Ellen's responsibilities; Vanessa McCrea has taken on additional responsibilities
- Volunteer sacristans schedule is working well
- Personnel handbook draft is currently being reviewed by the staff
- Daily Mass chapel is in use
- New AV system in the chapel is very efficient
- Volleyball tournament hosted by St. Joseph's: at least 20 teams participated; NCYC conducted a fundraiser for an orphanage in Uganda; Hannah Humphrey met the orphanage's director at NCYC; sponsored a child – raised \$600 (costs \$300/year to sponsor a child)

Pastoral Care Area

Overview of January meeting with Msgr. Lang and representatives from St. Michael's and St. Francis parishes

Discussion:

- Inevitable that Mass schedules at all parishes will be changed to reflect a reduction in the number of Masses
- Reality of how the declining number of priests is negatively impacting the diocese
- Mass schedule will impact how intentions are scheduled

Parish Committee Reports

Facilities/Faith in Action project - John Ferguson

- Raised \$1.5M over 4 years ago
- Overview of five targeted projects and cost estimates
- \$25-30,000 remain
- Need to reconvene the Buildings & Grounds Committee to consider new targeted projects
- Considering including a different envelope: Capital Projects (replace Capital Campaign envelopes)
- Bulletin insert with a summary of each of the original 5 targeted projects; overview of new targeted projects

Share Parishioner Feedback

- Parishioners are excited about the Upper Room
- Vestibule renovations are appreciated
- Snow removal is outstanding

Prayer Leader: May 2015 meeting – Julie Brissette

Closing Prayer: Susan Ross

At 7:40 p.m., on motion by Malcolm Bienvenu and second by Dave Kaminski, the Parish Council meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by,

Karen A. Hopkins
Secretary, Parish Council

Next meeting: May 4, 2015; 6:30 pm