

Peace of Christ Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting
St. John the Evangelist Church Hall
Tuesday, January 8, 2019

Attendance: Fr. Tim Brown, Bruce Cavallaro, Carolyn Conrow, Karen Costello, Alan Dickinson, Rick Eisenman, Joan Frazier, Nick Frega (Diocesan Liaison to Pastoral Council), Matthew Grosodonia, Ken Klamm, Rob Layer, Sean Manfreda, Sue Morrison, Eric Oswald, Fr. Robert Schrader, Mary Ellen Steele, Mia Valvo

Excused: Bob Crego, Joyce Raymond and Sr. Marlene Vigna RSM

Scribe: Goldie Rogers

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm

- **Opening Prayer** - Bruce
- **Approval of December Minutes and January Agenda/Housekeeping Items**

The minutes were accepted as written and the agenda was accepted with a minor correction.

Welcome Weekend is scheduled for January 26/27 and all Masses are covered. The next Pastoral Council meeting will be on February 12th.

- **Open Forum** - No one present
- **Councilor's Concerns**

Alan reported that the Knights of Columbus Sale of Monks' Bread Products held during December was a success.

Karen mentioned that the annual Public Policy Weekend is scheduled for February 9/10 and the issue this year is the **Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act** which would grant equal labor rights to the workers who milk and tend animals, and plant, harvest, pack fruits and vegetables around our state. Our parishes in the Diocese gather signatures to support this legislation.

Carolyn reported that the Annual Nativity Pageant was held on Saturday, December 22 at 10 am. It requires considerable practice for everyone and was very well done but not many people were in attendance. The date for this event was changed to hopefully

accommodate family members who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Joan shared two samples that a friend brought back from a parish in Florida to show another way to welcome visitors and update parish records.

➤ **Book Discussion - Chapters 26-31 (*Divine Renovation Apprentice*) - Fr. Bob**

These chapters initiated considerable consideration. It was noted that while the Vision Statement is a valid instrument there is no provision to measure the success of the activities generated. The use of a survey was also mentioned again.

The need to update the website was again voiced. Fr. Bob mentioned there is a meeting coming up this weekend and this will be addressed.

➤ **Updates: Community Outreach and ChristLife - Rick**

Information on Community Outreach Day which is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, will be coming later this month in the church bulletin. Parishioners will be asked to submit ideas and requests for projects. Sign-up sheets and descriptive posters will follow after the projects have been finalized.

Rob reported that there is a registration of between 25-30 for the repeat of Part One of ChristLife starting this Thursday, January 10th at St. Ambrose. There was some concern that they would not have enough table facilitators but that has been solved. Two volunteers are coming from St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Parish to help facilitate this event. Sharing Christ, the third in the series, will be held at Dailey Hall at St. Ambrose starting on Wednesday, February 20 and ending with the Retreat on Saturday, April 6th.

Youth Report

Divine Renovation Apprentice - Chapter 26, Connecting the Dots, p. 120.

Idea #1 - How and Who? Our RCIA program, as it pertains to children, would benefit greatly by having older youth serve as mentors, before, during and after their reception into full communion of the Church/completion of their Sacraments of Initiation, at the Easter Vigil. Goal: Idea #1 ties in with p. 3 - Building community, not just

between young people, but with their families and engaging youth in the broader parish community.

Chapter 29, Baptism Prep, p. 126. Idea #2 - How and Who? After reflection on youth ministry these past four years, some things that could make for a better youth ministry program would be to include discussion on current events that bother youth these days: "cutting," stress, college choices, etc.

Idea #2 ties in with p. 42 - Pastoral care in youth ministry develops the life skills of adolescents, such as relationship building, assertiveness, non-violent conflict resolution, decision-making and planning.

January 26, 4:30 pm at St. James Church there will be Prayer and Blessing for Year 2 Confirmation Candidates and their sponsors.

Confirmation is scheduled for April 8 at 7 pm.

The Youth Group delivered stuffed animals and books to a grateful Bivona Children's Center on December 14th just in time for Christmas. Members helped with the delivery of the Christmas baskets for the needy in our area on December 15th. Our first bilingual Las Posadas, an inspirational prayer service and celebration was held on December 17th at St. James with members of the youth group from St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Parish and the three priests, Rev. Robert Schrader, Rev. Mickey McGrath, and Rev. Robert Werth. It was enjoyed by all and future collaborations are being planned. Look for a joint Passion Mime to take place around Easter. The event planned for Parish Youth and friends at College scheduled for December 28 was canceled due to a lack of time. A survey will be sent out to find a better time for future activities. On January 26, 10 - 11 am, there will be an information meeting about the National Catholic Youth Conference to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana from November 21-23, 2019. CYO Basketball will resume the week of January 7th.

Council member, Carolyn Conrow, offered the possibility of youth members participating in the ChristLife series by attending the upcoming scheduled series and have their own table. Mia will refer this suggestion back to Melissa Mang.

➤ **Reports** - Financial, School, Catholic Ministries Appeal

Fr. Bob passed out copies of the financial report for 12/31/18 and reported that the parish pledges have now reached 107.55% of the goal for the CMA for 2018-2019.

Open House at St. Ambrose Academy is scheduled during Catholic Schools Week on Tuesday, January 29 at 6:00 PM. All are welcome. Special rates for early registration to St. Ambrose Academy for 2019-20 are being offered.

The question was raised as to whether aid is given for preschool. Preschool is not eligible for aid. The diocese gives \$300,000 to the parish to be used for school aid for K-5 students and toward the school budget.

➤ **RocACTS Task Force Report** - Carolyn, Bruce, Karen and Fr. Bob

Carolyn's group, Poverty and Jobs, did not meet in December and are meeting this evening. They are continuing to work on Housing Issues. Bruce's group, Police Accountability, is continuing to work on this issue. Another plan has been proposed and supported by Mayor Lovely Warren that differs from the plan that the group is supporting. Karen's group, Child Care, is continuing to work with the surveys taken from school parents. Fr. Bob reported that his group is working to open mediation between the union and Jordan Health Center workers regarding wages and benefits. Management has not been open to mediation.

➤ **Follow-up on Survey** - Nick

The Diocesan Office will be able to help prepare a survey for use by our parish in an effort to determine what parishioners would like and how they feel about what is being offered. Nick mentioned that there are four different ways to ask questions. They just need to know what information we are looking for. It was determined that Pastoral Council members will finish reading the book, *Divine Renovation Apprentice*, and then the results will be reviewed and prioritized. We can then make suggestions for outreach possibilities as well as develop questions for a survey.

➤ **Nominating Committee Timeline** - Carolyn

There will be four openings on Pastoral Council for next year. From Easter until May 19th, names will be requested for anyone who wishes to serve on Council. Starting mid-May, contacts will be made to the candidates to verify their willingness to serve. Names will be picked Pentecost Sunday weekend, June 8/9. Mary Ellen and Sue offered to help Carolyn with making contacts.

➤ **Closing Prayer** - Rob

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2019, 7 pm, St. John's Church Hall

Opening Prayer: Karen Costello

Closing Prayer: Rick Eisenman
Refreshments: Matt Grosodonia

Respectfully submitted,
Goldie Rogers