

**St. Catherine of Siena parish Pastoral Council
February 13, 2016 – Minutes**

Members present: Father Robert Creagan, Patrick Martin, Chip Everett, Tammy LeFaive, Narcia Schultz, Nancy Dudasko, Jim Norman, Scott Betzler, and Gary Hunt. Guest attendee-Mary Hunt.

Unable to attend: Colleen Semler, Nathan Whitford, Brett Merkel, Gretchen Merkel, Colleen Hoerman, and Claire Pollack.

Meeting Called to order: 10:07 AM

Opening Prayer led by Patrick

Minutes of the October 10, 2015 meeting brought up for discussion, no amendments requested, accepted by group.

Reports:

1) Steward Reports

- a. Nancy brought up music report, would like participation numbers, same with youth report.
- b. Nursery questions came up; lack of volunteers has been a problem.
 - i. Some noticed the nursery is underused.
 - ii. Chip mentioned a consistent volunteer has manned the nursery during 9:00 mass.
 - iii. Mary Hunt brought up that in the past a telephone intercom was used to monitor the mass. Narcia said that is being considered again. Mary also mentioned that if volunteers were unavailable, a staff member was present to keep the nursery open.

2) Finance Council Report

- a. Father Bob covered finances:
 - i. Because of Christmas we are in the black by \$1K. Spending is staying in check. Easter will be the next larger income period. "Everyone is down" (speaking about other parishes in the area). 67% of registered parishioners donate regularly. Discussion about

stewardship/giving ensued. Patrick likes direct deposit. Narcia said the boxes of envelopes cost the parish \$4k annually.

Old Business:

- 1) 50th Anniversary Committee update (Mary Hunt)
 - a. Mary passed around a sample of the 50th anniversary coffee mug. They will be sold for \$10 each (cost is \$6).
 - i. When sample shirts come both will be sold at a table in the Narthex.
 - b. Directory is coming later in February.
 - c. Sister Nancy Murray will be here April 29th (feast day of St. Catherine). Tickets to her presentation will be sold for \$20. Snacks will be provided during intermission.
 - d. Memorial Day parade. A truck and trailer have been donated. So far the Clark family has volunteered to decorate. Youth help was suggested.
 - e. Video of archive pictures is being created by Patrick.
 - f. Also a book of same will be compiled.
 - g. St Catherine prayer card being put together for distribution
 - h. Gathering band concert being planned for June
 - i. Patrick mentioned the June (?) Charter Member dinner being hosted by the Pastoral Council.
 - i. He is looking for a volunteer(s) to lead the council in this endeavor.
 - j. Parish picnic: Vertical Edge has been contracted to supply carnival rides (\$6K)
 - i. Fundraisers came up and rides may be sponsored by groups.
 - ii. Chip mentioned a site plan permit might be required by the city.
 - k. Father Bob will be organizing a November pilgrimage to Rome

- 2) Update on Bishop's Appeal and Diocese Campaign (Fr. Bob)
 - a. 2015 campaign will conclude at the end of June and is currently at 84% of goal. The church has a plan to cover to shortage from savings if needed.
 - b. 900 families have contributed
 - c. A final pulpit appeal will be made mid February
 - d. We have 107 members in Catholic schools which helps reduce our commitment by \$600 per student
 - e. He mentioned that the diocese could tax each parish but choses to appeal instead.
 - f. He went over several other diocese appeals and touched on the success of each.
 - g. Capitol campaign to begin in the fall of 2016. St Catherine's portion expected to be \$1.7 mil over 3 years. This will help the Schools, a pastoral retirement home, a media center, and 33% will stay with each parish.
- 3) Update on Diocesan Pastoral Plan
 - a. Fr Bob: 59 sites in Diocese. 45 have resident pastors, 14 are missions. We have 75 priests, 20 are retired, and 10 more could retire at any time. There is one priest for every 1900 people. St Catherine has 3 priests, could go down to 2, or may stay at 3. He does not know what is going to happen. "Adjustments may come". Presentation to explain coming collaborations between churches March 1st at St Mary's.

New Business:

- 1) Approval for 1 day beer and wine license for the Recipes for Change Dinner on April 9, 2016
 - a. Vote was required by the pastoral council. Motion was made by Patrick to approve, was passed by unanimous vote.
- 2) Social Media was discussed and how to better use it for church information
 - a. Patrick is looking for council communication opportunities and he brought up social media. The St Catherine Facebook site

came up. Could it be enhanced? Could it become a closed group to maintain privacy or should it not? (Currently the page has 747 likes). Narcia is an administrator and said we are reaching hundreds of people through the Facebook site. Nancy suggested a bulletin promotion of our Facebook site and maybe add it to the communication listings. Gary suggested inviting Kendra Stampor (webmaster/communications) to our next meeting discuss opportunities. Chip mentioned he would prefer his notifications/updates to come through e-mail.

- b. The Knights are discussing Video board(s) in the narthex
- 3) Volunteers in the church and ways to improve participation:
 - a. Patrick asked the group how can we “spark volunteerism” in the church.
 - i. Fr Bob mentioned the first section of “Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic” talked about volunteerism and how to increase it. We have 450 volunteers but many are counted more than once (multiple ministries).
 - ii. Fr Bob said the time commitment should be stated clearly when soliciting volunteers.

Communications:

- 1) Comments from parishioners, Council Members comments, other business of the church (physical, spiritual, educational, social)
 - a. Jim Norman: Comment about Christmas season, parishioner was disappointed because they could only participate in two carols prior to mass (were hoping for more)
 - b. Fr Bob fundraiser for preschool March 19th. Mother/daughter tea in May, basket raffle end of June (winners to be drawn at newcomer’s dinner).
 - c. Other fundraiser ideas: beer/wine tasting, selling front row seats at church

Closing Prayer led by Patrick 11:50

Next Meeting: May 14, 2016