

St. Catherine of Siena Pastoral Council

May 16, 2016-Minutes

Members Present: Fr. Bob Creagan, Patrick Martin, Chip Everett, Tammy LeFaive, Narcia Schultz, Nancy Dudasko, Scott Betzler, Colleen Semler, Nathan Whitford, Brett Merkel, Gretchen Merkel

Unable to Attend: Gary Hunt, Claire Podiak

-Opening Prayer led by Fr. Bob

-Minutes from February 13, 2016 meeting reviewed and accepted

- 1) Steward Reports
- 2) Finance Council Report—Sunday collections for this year average about \$27,881. This is behind the 5-year average of \$28,421. Still, the expenditures this year are down \$20,000, thanks to our parish staff and stewards. BAA 2015 had 984 donors, with an average donation of \$248. While we were short \$24,000, we budgeted for a \$30,000 shortfall.

Old Business:

- 1) 50th Anniversary Committee update—Our first event was on April 29, 2016, the feast day of St. Catherine of Siena. Sr. Nancy Murray, OP, of Adrian presented a one-woman show on St. Catherine's life. Over 120 attended. Our next event is Friday, June 24, at 7:00pm. The Gathering Band will lead us in praise and worship in the main church. The new directory is available. Jubilee cups were sold out and more have been ordered. Shirts will be available by month's end. The Anniversary Mass will be Sunday, August 7, 2016 at 5:00pm. Bishop Bradley will be main celebrant.

- 2) Update on Bishop's Appeal and Diocese Campaign—BAA 2016 is behind last year's amount, in comparison. As of today, 384 families have pledged over 50% of our goal. This year's goal remains the same as last year's (\$278,867). In early June, Fr. Bob will send his first letter to remind parishioners to respond.
- 3) Update on Diocesan Pastoral Plan—Last summer, the Bishop began the process of re-grouping parishes in the Diocese. There are 59 parish sites, ranging as small as 60 families up to 2,150 families (that's us!). The challenge is that the priests are not distributed equitably among the parishes. Also, the number of weekend masses in the Diocese has remained the same with fewer priests. At this time, there are 45 pastors and 11 parochial vicars (assistant priests) who cover 162 masses. In January, the Bishop announced collaboratives; that is, a re-grouping of parishes. There are 28 collaboratives. St. Catherine of Siena church remains its own collaborative. Our mass schedule remains the same, too. While there are not scheduling changes, all priests of the Diocese are up for assignment (whether a new assignment or re-assignment). The Bishop meets with all priests on Thursday, May 19. The assignments will be announced the weekend of May 21-22.

New Business:

- 1) Outdated or Updated Improvements to the church—there were four items that need attention and which the Council recommend for consideration: updating Marian Hall; video screens for the Narthex, esp. for overflows; updating sound system and projectors; kneelers. No further action was taken but each item needs further attention and reporting.

- 2) Name Tags for people at mass to get to know one another better—
It was proposed by a parishioner to provide name tags for mass attendees in order to get to know each other. After a brief discussion, it was seen as an unnecessary use of funds and impractical for the size of the parish. There are other ways to meet people at mass. Maybe once a month before all masses, attendees may introduce themselves to those around them. Fr. Bob suggested starting with weekday mass.
- 3) RCIA schedule change?—Presently, RCIA class are on Wednesday night. This spreads the availability of the priest thin since Wednesday is Religious Education night. It is proposed to move the class to either Saturday or Sunday. It is possible to ask next year's class the preferred day and time, too.
- 4) Meeting Changes to Monday schedule—Most are in agreement with the move from Saturday to Monday. We will try the 3rd Monday quarterly,

Communications:

- 1) Comments from parishioners
 - Request to add an evening weekday Mass (6pm) weekly or monthly.
 - Request that LifeTeen mass preaching connect more with the youth.
 - Inquiry about annual Finance report and if a report can be made during mass as in the past.
 - Suggest that monthly steward reports be presented in a quarterly fashion for the Pastoral council.
 - Developing APP for the parish.
 - Suggest that the lights on the Stations be turned on more often.
 - Questions the cost of religious education and late fees

-- Concerns that the parish has become more policy oriented that faith based.

2) Council Members comments

3) Other business of the church (physical, spiritual, educational, social)

Next Meeting: Monday, August 15 at 7:00pm

Closing Prayer and blessing from Fr. Bob

These noted prepared by Fr. Bob on May 18, 2016