

**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MINUTES OF A  
MEETING OF THE PASTORAL COUNCIL**

October 10, 2019

A meeting of the Pastoral Council (the "Council") of St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church (the "Church") was held at the Church's Parish Center on October 10, 2019 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Pat, Fr. Ray, Christina Wagner, Greg Marsh, Greg Thomas, John Langham, Kevin Morgan and Sue LeFevre, were in attendance. Stephanie Werner was not in attendance due to a death in her immediate family and the need to attend that family member's funeral in California. One of our parishioners also attended as an observer.

Fr. Pat called the meeting to order and chaired the meeting. Sue acted as Secretary for the meeting. Fr. Ray began the meeting with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to guide the Council in its discernment. He also prayed for the repose of the soul of Monsignor Oliver Johnson, the founding Pastor of the Church, and for his eternal peace and joy in the hands of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Financial Report**

Fr. Pat asked Sue to provide a financial report to the Council. Sue advised that the first quarter of fiscal 2020 ended very strong with a net income of \$51,000. She indicated that the result showed income up over the same quarter for fiscal 2019 by \$32,000 and expenses down by 19,000 resulting in the \$51K positive result. Sue explained that the while the net income was certainly a positive outcome the resulting monies were not stockpiled in the Church's bank account. The net income monies were used to reduce the bridge loan debt obligation by \$37,000 and an additional \$10,000 as a partial payment for a new HVAC system for Fr. Pat's home and the new screen in Johnson Hall. Sue told the Council that historically the first fiscal quarter is typically slow due to summer travels. She hopes that the future quarters will be even stronger.

**Upcoming Community Events**

Fr. Pat told the Council that a Harvest Festival had been scheduled for the upcoming weekend and that a Christmas Party was planned for mid-December. He asked Sue to provide further detail. Sue explained that the Harvest Festival was intended as a family event with many activities for youngsters. As the date coincided with the UT game against Oklahoma it was decided to add the game to the schedule. The game will be presented on the big screen. The children will be offered a movie in one of the side rooms during the game. It was not expected that many would attend for the game but since it was an easy cost-free addition the staff decided to give it a try. As for the Christmas party, Sue said that it would be largely a duplication of last year's success. The Council agreed that last year's party was hugely enjoyed by the many attendees. Sue explained that they were planning to make some modest changes but expected that the party would be substantially the same as last year's festivities.

### **Adult Ministry Presentation**

Pam Neumann, the Director of Religious Education for Adults, joined the meeting. Pam advised the Council that adult programming has been very strong since the opening of the Parish Center. Last year's RCIA group was quite large with more than 20 participants. This year's group has started small, but it will likely grow a bit as they continue through the program. She explained that it is not uncommon for numbers to fluctuate year to year. Last year they introduced a new Senior Ministry that is targeted to address the needs of our Church elders. It was warmly received by many members of our senior community. The program has continued this year with renewed programming and enthusiasm. Pam told the Council that we now have three active bible study groups for adults and will soon launch small Christian communities for the advent season. Pam introduced our new ALPHA program to the Council. She advised that ALPHA is a program aimed at evangelization. The goal is to introduce those with little or no church connection to Christ. It is not intended to sell the Catholic faith although that might be a positive byproduct. They have started with members of our own community with the hope that they can encourage these participants to serve as leaders down the road. It is a 10-week program that consists of video presentations and group discussions. The program has been largely successful at other venues and we are hopeful for a positive outcome here. Finally, Pam discussed the difficulties of developing programming for young adults. Fr Pat agreed that these programs are difficult to sustain due to the mobility of the young adult population. He explained that launch attempts rapidly fail due to the inability to keep the participants connected. Pam welcomed any insights the Council could provide.

### **Scheduling Conflicts with Coffee and Donuts**

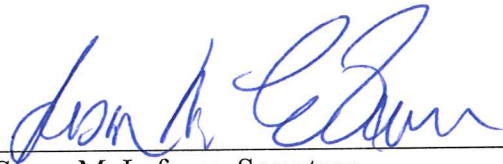
Greg Thomas expressed concern that having monthly coffee and donuts scheduled on the same weekend as the Knight's barbeque has caused some scheduling difficulties for some groups who might find it necessary to participate in both activities. Fr. Pat asked Sue to try to resolve the scheduling issues. Sue said that it wouldn't be possible to change the date of the last two for this calendar year but would attempt to move things around starting in January.

### **Request for more Service Activities**

Christina Wagner asked whether it might be possible to create more service opportunities for the community. She expressed an interest in adding a service component to other activities like asking the community to bring pet food when bringing their animals for the annual pet blessing on the feast of St. Francis. She was also interested in service opportunities for youth. She reminded the Council of service activities that occurred in the past like making sandwiches for ARCH and housing homeless families. Sue advised that those service opportunities were no longer available. ARCH has been repurposed and is no longer a drop-in center for homeless. It now only serves homeless on a referral basis. Additionally, the ARCH is not a safe location for

families as it a site of frequent drug sales and other criminal activities. It has become so unsafe that even the homeless have been avoiding the area. Also, the groups that formerly would move homeless from place to place have changed their practices to make housing homeless on a permanent basis the new priority. For these reasons those two service activities are no longer available. Sue advised that the staff was planning a service day in March 2020. Pam said that she would speak with Rhonda Smith about service activities that might be suitable for youth participation. It was generally agreed to make service a priority.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was duly adjourned.



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Susan M. Lefevre, Secretary

Dated: November 4, 2019