

**Church of the Resurrection / Church of the Assumption  
Joint Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

**Monday November 10, 2014  
Church of the Resurrection Hall, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

**Present:**

Church of the Resurrection:

Name	Y or N	Name	Y or N	Name	Y or N	Name	Y or N
Sr. Joan Cawley	Y	Anthony DiBernardo	Y	John Callard	Y	Jean Greco	Y
Linda & George Keefe	Y	Joe & Diana Daggar	Y	Eileen Johnson	Y	Chuck Moynihan	Y
Paul Procaccini	Y	Bridget Callard	N	Laura Michelsen	Y		

Church of the Assumption:

Name	Y or N	Name	Y or N	Name	Y or N	Name	Y or N
Erin Bird	Y	Fr. Michael Costik	Y	Rocco DiMarsico	Y	Terry Eberhart	Y
Amy Fernaays	N	Alan Goodrich	Y	Steven Grogan	Y	Erin Hysick	Y
Lynn Keck	N	Michelle Kelly	Y	Hank Maher	Y	Eva Martin	N
Maria Mruzek	N	Katarina Nichols	Y	Fr. Ed Palumbos	Y		
Mike Walsh	Y	Karen Webb	N	Abby Williams	Y	Ken Zablotny	Y
Lauren Wheeler	Y						

*Designate present with "Y" or "N" in Box.*

**Meeting called to order:     7:05**

**Minutes:**

- 1. Opening prayer** was led by Sister Joan Cawley.
- 2. Introduction of all participants.**

Highlights

- a. Objectives - Look forward to: extended relationships building off success from Leadership program earlier this year, foster growth of both parishes and learn from each other.
- b. Most people have been with their parishes 10 – 20 years and have previously or are currently participating in multiple ministries and committees. In summary this is a very

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dynamic group of individuals with a history of success and possessing some vital leadership characteristics; humility, courage, vision, drive and persistence.

- c. Joe is not sure what parish he is a member of (☺)
- d. Father Ed introduced himself as youngest member of Council, as marked by his count-down clock until retirement. Commented 13+ years is longest tenure in one location, has found it rewarding, he is hopeful and confident all will work-out in this new configuration of dual parishes, with that in mind he is looking forward to working with everyone as we continue to grow a community of faith, and his retirement as well..
- e. Interesting, Fr. Michael is Parochial Vicar for both organizations and is blessed with a clean slate. This role was not filled in either organization so he has the pleasure of working with both organizations to build a program from the ground up. Of course we is open to all suggestions regarding approaches from previous administrations.

### 3. Agenda Approvals:

- a. Both COR and COTA meeting minutes were approved by formal motion.

### 4. Pastors Report:

Father Ed passed out a joint Pastors report (see embedded pdf) Highlights include:

- a. Really excited about connections between the two organizations, hopeful we will get renewal “that sense of energy, passion, etc. from each as we pursue our individual and joint stewardship and evangelization initiatives.
- b. Continues to be challenged by responsibilities of “joint” operation, continually impressed with energy of all that is done at COR (small population but many hands doing many terrific initiatives in parallel) and looks forward to learning more.
- c. **Strong direct (face to face) communication ties** are the measure of feeling connected for Fr. Ed. Really doesn’t have enough time to be as present in both organizations as he would like so he feels a bit out of sync. That said, there are strong communication ties between both organizations and to Fr. Ed, they just happen to be more and more through indirect media channels like: emails, text, chats, a few phone calls, and many meetings. He has faith this will continue to evolve for him personally and the organizations.
- d. CMA report, both organizations north of 50% to goal, he noted that COR is currently “beating” Cota, both parishes are happy with progress to date, another mailing scheduled for week of Nov 17<sup>th</sup> so pass the word. Appears to be a good/strong working vibe between Sister Joan and Fr. Ed, for few moments they entertained the council with

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a Burns and Allen esc exchange that was quite funny. (George and Gracie if I am dating myself go to YouTube☺).

- e. Liturgy coordinator idea could be first of ideas to be stolen as best practices that will represent cross fertilization between COR and COTA. Also the “Good News” ministry will continue to keep us all excited about the great ways we evangelize with in the community, parishes and neighborhoods. Keep your ears to the ground for signals of new needs that we can respond to.
- f. Pre-Canna was wonderful Saturday night 6 couples current participating. At one point it was two couples, we have learned that we need to be a bit more direct with our engaged couples to encourage their attendance and capture the young, vibrant expressions of faith. More to come.
- g. 22nd of Nov, “Bike Recycle” program will take place at Cota 9-1 pm. Terrific community service activity, Barry Buffin (sp?) COR, and Gary Hill, Sacred Heart, recycle and re-build bicycles for redistribution to those without. Bring in any type of extra bikes and parts so they can rebuild. Terry, asked will there be receipts for donation recording? Yes we believe this is recognized as a charitable donation.
- h. Father Ed impressed with number of activities going on at COR all weekend. By way of example; Leave raking for others,[family ministry activity, doing lawns and gardens of those who cannot, seniors, etc.] Most impressive is way to get families to do things all together. Also fruit sales, Joe D commented the best is the great sense of satisfaction that is visible to those who participate in the programs, and a great lesson to the kids. There are public displays of Photo’s (from phones), thank you notes, all creating a magnificent reminder to all.
- i. Another wonderful way to say to community that we are here, House to house visitation, the listening campaign, as means to get active in community, to say we are here, what is important to our community is what is important to us as a parish. More details from Hank Maher and a special way to dedicate the memory of Bob Warth (co-founder).
- j. “A parish turned in on itself, is really a contradiction.” Put all of our gifts at the service of others. Parishioner who was very active in this mission, Bob Warth, passed away suddenly this week. Celebration of his life tonight and tomorrow.
- k. School of Religion fund raiser - Denny’s in Fairport, Thursday 4 -10 pm; restaurant will donate 20% of all meal proceeds to the Cota School of religion. Terry E will post to Facebook and other media pages. Also School of religion passed out to their students this evening.

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### 5. Business report

- a) Karen absent, attending meeting at diocese regarding a Financial Services organization that can provide support (Funds and Investment vehicles) to the diocese for administration and management of parish savings, etc. Karen's will report at next month's meetings.

### 6. Transition, how is it going:

Open discussion;

Alan G...the chatter is way down, BAU with masses no changes evident, transition of priests and deacons between has been accepted.

Michelle Kelly - attended COR and felt very strong sense of community, really enjoyed the experience.

Sister Joan, took opportunity to reinforce that we as leaders are in charge of both parishes and we worked hard to establish a culture of "sister parishes" a cluster, so let's emphasize sister parishes...COR is 41 years young, Cota is 100 50 plus. People new to the community are still Parish shopping in the diocese, and many people like the small community feel of COR, five (5) new registrations this week is an example of that. As sister parishes we offer a wide range of opportunities for those seeking a parish. Watch out for double registrations.

Father Michael only knows the sharing, he perceives that both parishes have adapted very well to the changing of deacons and priests. Still some frustration with parishioners that the clergy have not really established bonding yet, (they like the personal touch). Also lots of schedule adjustments to address on a regular basis. . At times Fr. Michael has also accommodated the greater diocese and their needs. He sees there are more similarities between organizations and very consistent in demeanor, warmth and tolerance.

Fr. Ed, finds it a challenge to feel rooted at COR vs. COTA (13yrs). Still knows a lot of people in both. He does feel welcome by all parishioners, staff and the community.

Father is George refreshing, the sharing of liturgical work and perspectives, between the organizations, is a bit void of the visibility to how others are connecting to the messages and representations. Each liturgical provider may be feeling disconnected from their audience due to sharing of load and lack of feedback channels.

Fr. Ed and others provided an introduction to AWE (ministry at Cota) and the focus upon social media and marketing. Council agreed to look for opportunities to mesh the people of both organizations into AWE. The driver, most people in the community join RCIA, and other parish based organizations through either; spouses, or walk-in from social media connections.

COR has website, but updates, content creation and maintenance remains a major challenge. Sister Joan has issued message to empower the committee chairs with responsibility to keep current. Kathy and Michele at COR are really jumping in. Team just completed study of pro's cons, rules and attributes. Look to stewardship campaign as means to find other people who may be interested in assisting. Put more of it on youth and 20 something's to drive content.

Question raised to the joint council; How to get new blood into the committees?

Suggestions:

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- While elections occur once a year, you get people involved through recruiting people for small jobs prior to full participation.
- Committee open house is a manner to get people to learn about different opportunities without incurring obligation full time.
- Committee's need to have sales and marketing approach to their ministry. Welcome committee with live visit from parish and ask for interests.
- Establishing connections at a personal level from existing staff or ministries is most successful means for getting volunteers.
- Lauren W, Anthony D, many people want to help but don't know how to get started or who to contact. Anthony shared the pew check box form as means.

### **7. Communications between the parishes:**

Things seem to be progressing pretty well on their own, (it has only been 4.5 months) Open Discussion:

One example, KC Bush did live presentation/discussion of Trunk and Treat at COR mass.

1<sup>st</sup> Penance services had scheduling conflict but learned to share the full team across two dates in December 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Joan (COR) and Sheryl (COTA) have done a tremendous job of establishing a master calendar.

Joe Dagger, already sharing Priests and Deacons, at what point do we have a sharing of a greater degree?

Paul, things already started, KC Bush attended COR development team meeting to get some best practice sharing of ideas from COR team. It was a terrific experience. Also sharing has occurred in Stewardship (Chuck M), bench marking the programs that were in place at COTA.

Suggested action, lets share information between committee chairs (i.e. contact information) and let that take its natural progression. Council agreed it is a bit too early to have forced and merged committees in favor of the liaison approach for a while.

Ken Z provided suggestion of communication from Sister Joan and Fr. Ed to say liaison approach and best practice sharing. A dialogue occurred; Fr. Ed suggests to lightly asking the liaisons to collaborate at grass roots level. Joe D believes in the months that have past, there has not been a strong undertone of take-over, and maybe we could move it forward without worry. Terry E, maybe means to an end is cross distribution of activities in a more formal way, helps get the people to start talking to each other. Ken any chance to get shared hyper-links to each other's bulletins? Some challenges exist regarding weekly update of the content refresh, opportunities for greater reaches for the advertisers.

Potential – Action; Joe Dagger to follow with Liturgical publisher about live hot link advertising.

Proposal to the council, have the end of mass announcements focus on the activities of both organizations. Acceptance of proposal that we would co-share of bulletins, Sheryl and Sister Joan will discuss the how. Fr. Ed reinforces using examples analogous to saturation bombing. Flat screens, bulletin, social media. Joint sub-committee to focus on that agenda topic, invite

### **8. Best practices:**

- a. There was agreement that some earlier discussion topics also addressed best practices and sharing. The joint council agreed the best approach, at this time; for sharing was to support

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the informal sharing that is developing at a committee level (i.e. What KC Bush did in reaching out to COR), establishing its own inertia and guarding against misinterpretations that would occur from policy or suggestive type statements from the council.

- b. Alan commented on precision of Finance committee procedures and focus to critical issues. Joe found that focus of analytics and trending help to get discussion to points of action. This may get consideration as a future sharing topic.

**9. Closing Prayer** was led by Father Michael Costik

ACTIONS - Description	Assigned	Date
Potential – Action; Follow up with Liturgical publisher about live hot link advertising.	Joe Dagger	
Potential – Action; Council agreed to look for opportunities to mesh the people of both organizations into AWE to address Social media and marketing challenges.	TBD	
Potential – Action; Committee open house was suggested as a manner to get people to learn about different ministries and committees without incurring obligation full time.	TBD	
Potential – Action; Lets share information between committee chairs (i.e. contact information) and let that take its natural progression as means to promote cross parish communication.	Alan Goodrich	
Potential – Action: to promote cross parish communications and awareness have the end of mass announcements focus on the activities of both organizations i.e. co-share of bulletins.	Sister Joan Sheryl Zabel	

Respectively submitted,  
**Steve Grogan**  
**Recording Secretary**

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## Pastor's Report to the joint Parish Councils Church of the Assumption Church of the Resurrection 11/10/14

- Thank you for prioritizing this time for us to be together tonight. I believe that we can find new and energizing ways to learn from each other's individual "parish cultures" that will be helpful to both our communities.
- I continue to be challenged in my new responsibilities as Pastor of both parishes and I thank you for your support and patience. I am profoundly impressed by the sense of community and collaboration that I have seen operating at Resurrection. I feel frustrated that I cannot devote more time in the parish daily affairs, but I know that Sr. Joan, Michelle, Cathy and Jan are "on the job" supporting the wonderful ministries with which the parish is blessed.
- I believe CMA is on track in both parishes. Sr. Joan reported that COR is at 63% and COTA reports indicate that Assumption is at app. 58%. We are on track to have the CMA wrapped up by Christmas. Thanks to the Stewardship Committees at both parishes for their hard work and leadership.
- I know we will hear from some of you at this table about the good things that are happening in our communities. This is Good News and a great way to evangelize in our parishes and neighborhood. We should be keeping our ears to the ground for new needs that we can respond to.
- We'll had Pre-Cana on Nov 8 & 9 in the COTA living room. The Six couples whom attended were wonderful, young and vibrant young people of faith who will be a wonderful addition to any parish they choose to become members of. Many couples are choosing to marry "outside" at one of the several wedding chapels around town; also there is a big trend toward "destination weddings". I see this as a challenge to make our parishes even more welcoming and hospitable.
- We are going to have a "Bike Recycle" program on Nov 22. Volunteers from the city will be at the COTA parking lot from 9-1pm to receive gently used bike, trikes and parts from Fairport folk. These will be reconditioned and given to city folks who need them for basic transportation. Please check your garages and basements for potential gifts to others. Barry Buffet from COR has been working with this group for many years.
- As I look forward to the ministry that we share, I feel very proud of the efforts of so many to reach out and bring the Good News of God's love to all. This is what Evangelization is all about! Thanks for your part in this effort. Over the years there has been talk about a formal outreach effort of Evangelization. COTA folks hope to have one on one "listening sessions" with 1000 people within the next year. The actual listening meetings have begun.
- We need to remember that outreach and service to others is part of our mission as a parish and in fact, is the source of energy and new life. A parish turned in on itself is a contradiction! Everything we do internally (teaching, celebrating, praying, playing) is focused on our mission to be Christ to others by the way we live, love and care for others. One of the finest examples of a person who lived this vision is COTA's Bob Warth who died suddenly last Thursday. We will celebrate his life, love and vision tomorrow at 11:15. Please remember him and his family in your prayer.

