

## Collaborative Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes: February 11, 2019; 7:00 pm

In attendance: Mary Farren, Lija Joseph, Yasmine Dalton, Ann Wilcox, Jeff Gallant, Brian Romer Niemiec, Michelle Solomon, Fr. John Sassani, Rosemary Seibold, Colin Foley, Keirnan Klosek, Anne Marie David, Erica Johnson

The Pastoral Plan writing team has met 3 – 4 times working on a draft to share with the staff.

The format has been on:

Vision – what will our parish look like in 2022?

Goals - how will we get there?

The focus has been on:

a. Sunday experience

b. Formation – discipleship - evangelization

The instructions were to break into small groups of 2/3 people and take 10 minutes.

What was the reaction to the goals. Come up with 1 concrete action step.

(I have been missing this.....; I would like to see this.....)

The following responses were obtained:

- The use of Gregorian chant to set the table for silence before and during the liturgy. It has a calming effect
- End the homilies with a question to ponder? A question that is open to interpretation with regard to how it resonates in your own life.
- Look for different ways to create depth in the liturgy. How can we walk out feeling change....intentionality...through the use of scripture, prayers and the homily.
- Connect to ministry – create an opportunity right after mass. How do you become involved. Provide a concrete challenge/opportunity within the Mass....do...be...improve.
- During ordinary time have a multi-week theme shared by the parishioners.
- Scripture ever old/ever new. Use the homily to help us break open the scripture. How do we live this out today. Bringing it to the level of day to day life and living.
- Create a sense of belonging. ...outcome to make parishioner feel joy...feel engaged. How do we help people feel connected? Create a ministry with a mission to get to know people...be connectors e.g., we missed you when you were not there.
- Get to know each other using different tools...question (that ties into the homily) before mass that people could discuss with neighbors in the pews. There are too many people we just don't know.
- Host Families: sign up to be connected with a new member/family with a similar profile.
- Balance the needs of the individual communities found at each Mass vs. the question of how we act as one community of faith. (Based on this discussion, PC members were encouraging each other to attend liturgies/other church within the collaborative that are new to them to develop an understanding of the community at large and their needs.)

As the Majority of the responses were focused on the Sunday experience, the same small groups focused for another 10 minutes on Formation – discipleship - evangelization.

How do I want to be challenged in my faith?

- Make sure the website presents a multiplicity of spiritualities and not a monolithic look.
- Educate the congregation through various vehicles: priest, cantor, bulletin, website on various fundamental concepts: e.g., when you listen to the gospel it is God speaking to you so it should resonate in your life.
- Connect Men. ... particularly middle aged men through activities or men's groups or invitations to join existing ministries.
- Reach out to families through Sports or various other themes. Pulling people together with like interests. Food bond people. Reach out to people who are not active in the church. Do something seasonally.
- Use photos and graphics. Take pictures...use them in the bulletin...it will show hesitant people that folks really do go to these events... it adds depth and connection. Kristina is the visual person for the bulletin. Can't label the pictures but unnamed pictures are okay.
- Be where the people are – show up at sporting and community events. MLK Interfaith Celebration (the Catholics were not there.) Utilize Local newspapers with regard to events and activities.
- Be challenged to talk about faith with others. Caring about neighbors, finding God in the present.

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Sacred Heart Space: still in the preliminary stages. Architects currently drawing existing spaces.

Fr. Bart Geger, S.J. will be saying masses within the collaborative. He will not be here during the summer but will be saying 1 -2 weekend masses and 7 am on Wednesdays.

Recap of Lenten Opportunities

- Live Lent Together Kick off (Saturday March 9 at OL from 2-5)
- Soup and Stations (Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at OL 6:00 -7:30)
- Fish Fry (Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> at SH, 6-8 pm) (Friday March 29<sup>th</sup> at OL, 6-8 pm)
- The Light is on for You Taize, Adoration, Reconciliation Wednesdays in Lent (March 13, 20, and 27 at OL; April 3, 10, and 17 at SH)

Meeting concluded at 8:20 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Our Lady's at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny Arpino