

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

*“The Holy Spirit transforms and renews us, creates harmony and unity, and gives us courage and joy for mission.” Pope Francis*

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 7:00 PM

Members: Father John Forbes, Wayne Crawford, Erica Davis, Mary Beth Griswold, Pat Haggerty, Sharon Landers, David Laurita, Christine Mimms, John Paulson, Eric Reisinger, Jeff Sylvester, Eric Westley, Carolyn Gale

Not Present: Ann Lambrecht, Helen West

Opening Prayer: 7:03pm Fr. Forbes

No Minutes

New members of the council, Mr. Wayne Crawford, and Mr. David Laurita were introduced and welcomed to the Council.

Fr. Forbes Reported on the status of the parish plan for 2019-2020.

Parish Survey. Fr. Forbes reported that Jim Helton would be speaking at Masses this weekend with a program related to parish plan. Fr. Forbes also reviewed the process for new members and that he expects to initiate the process in late September or early October.

Social Ministry Task Force: Fr. Forbes reported that the Task Force has not begun meeting. He asked if any of the council members wished to become involved in beginning the planning of this objective, not becoming a permanent leader of the Task Force.

Communications: Fr. Forbes has talked with some parishioners about this objective and some of our communications efforts such as the web site, constant contact, etc. Fr. Forbes referenced his concerns about social media.

Long Term Planning for Parish Missions: Fr. Forbes indicated the this work needs to be done 1 to 2 years into the future. He also reported parishioner's requests that a member of a religious order lead the next retreat.

Youth Ministry in the Sandhills: Fr. Forbes read a report from Helen West related to this objective. Encouragement has been extended for a joint group with St. Anthony and Sacred Heart, and the transitioning to Life Teen and Edge programs. Erica Davis reported that an introductory offer free trial ends on October 15th. Life Teen approved joint group and that she will coordinate meeting date for Fr. Forbes.

Tambra Place: Christine Mimms reported that there is a new board forming for Tambra Place and our involvement would best be delayed until 2020-2021 goals to allow them time to get better organized.

Habitat for Humanity: This Goal is going well. The Sacred Heart build begins this Saturday (9-14) 34 parishioners have volunteered for this project.

Increased Participation: We have 2 new members of the council this year. Other efforts are expected through the Stewardship Ministries led by Carolyn Gale.

Stewardship Report: John Paulson encourage all of the members of the council to support this effort. Fr. Forbes reported he is looking forward to an event for newcomers. Fr. Forbes would like to conduct a parish census to update information perhaps to include a phone call to all families on record now. Carolyn Gale reported on Welcome Desk adding a regular representative, planning for a new family dinner in December, an "All Ministry" meeting in October and a better use of the web site over the bulletin.

Pastoral Report: Finances - Fr. Forbes reported the Finance Council met last week and the parish offertory collection is about \$5,000 above last year at this time. The cost for renovations and repair following the hurricane damage of about \$23,000 were funded by savings and *Journey of Faith* balances. These expenses were for costs that were over the insurance payment. Fr. Forbes complimented the contractors, especially the painter for their efficient and respectful conduct during construction. Jeff Sylvester asked about Parish/Diocese plans for collections to support victims of hurricane damage in the Bahamas. Fr. Forbes responded that there has been no formal plan announced by the Diocese but anyone who wishes to help may do so through Catholic Relief Services. Help for those in North Carolina may be accomplished through Catholic Charities in Raleigh. Faith Formation Program classes are full. Deacon Guy is the interim director. With the change in leadership in this program, Faith Formation and Youth Ministry will be separated. Erica Davis reports the Edge curriculum supports Confirmation preparation and is approved by the Diocese. Fr. Forbes expects advertising for a new Youth Ministry Director to begin in January.

Fr. Forbes read a letter requesting financial support for a veterans program in Carthage seeking funding for families who are not able to pay the fee for a veteran's name to be included on the memorial wall they maintain. (\$30) Discussion was held during which Fr. Forbes expressed his caution for making such a contribution. Mary Beth Griswold suggested checking with United Way to determine the group's administrative costs as a percent of donations. Wayne Crawford suggested that we could ask the Knights of Columbus about their knowledge of the group.

Erica Davis reported that the Totus Tuus summer program was a success. Father Forbes reported that an assistant has been hired for the Nursery Director. Fr. also reported that Edith Kaylor has questioned if the Parent Night Out program should continue at Sacred Heart. Father indicated that it is a good ecumenical outreach from the program at Trinity Christian Fellowship Church. We have up to 60 attending at our sessions.

Fr. Forbes expressed his confidence that we have good ministries at Sacred Heart Parish as exemplified by the Bereavement Ministry success. Sharon Landers confirmed families are very generous and the Bereavement Ministry does not cost the parish anything to offer. Father Forbes asked us to be present at the welcome desk as often as possible.

**Closing Prayer:** 8:20pm Fr. Forbes

Next Pastoral Council Meeting – Tuesday October 8 at 7:00 PM