

# 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, January 8, 2019

Members: Father John Forbes, Father Javier, Deacon Berry, Beth Renwick, Erica Davis, Mary Beth Griswold, Ann Lambrecht, Sharon Landers, John Paulson, Joe Ptaszek, Eric Reisinger, Jeff Sylvester, Eric Westley, Carolyn Gale, Stewardship Council.

Excused: Pat Haggerty, Christine Mimms

Opening Prayer: 7:01pm

November Minutes approved

Pastor's Report: Father John Forbes announced that we will celebrate marriage anniversaries at a Mass on June 1 at 11:00 AM (Saturday). It will be open to all, not limited to “milestone” celebrations.

A Mass for the Anointing of the Sick is scheduled for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Monday, February 11 at 11:00 AM. A reception and/or lunch following the anointing is under consideration.

Father addressed the increasing number of Sacred Heart parishioners' children attending Saint John Paul II School. He will approve a speaker in support of Catholic Schools at Sacred Heart during the coming National Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 27-Feb. 2. Sharon Landers asked about a Catholic high school in the area. Father John referenced the current Diocesan High School feasibility study now under way and the existence of the recently established Fr. Capodanno High School.

Finance Report: Father John announced that Edith Kaylor and Ed Biebrich will serve as co-chairs of the Finance Committee. They are working on a financial report to parishioners. The recent audit of parish finances indicated only minor changes to be adopted related to the processing of collections, use of bank bags, and rotating the counting groups weekly.

The annual Dean's visit will be a short version and will be scheduled this Spring.

The Funeral Ministry is a very important resource for parishioners, staff and clergy. Recently a parishioner who died had no family so the parish is claiming the body. A parishioner is paying the funeral expenses. Father noted his belief that the parish should help with such expenses as necessary including with care givers and hospice.

Father John will be on vacation beginning January 14.

Staff and usher training by Dr. Jim Helton will begin as soon as he recovers from surgery.

Father John reported good feedback on the new counseling service.

The Finance Council will meet on February 10 and will report to Pastoral Council following the reorganization now underway. Finances are in good order with Ed Biebrich again standing in for Anna Sinisi, whose husband has been hospitalized.

Father John has signed a contract for the cleaning of tile and grout in bathrooms in the Church and Education Building.

Stewardship Report: Carolyn Gale reported

Advertising for a leader for the Mass Transit initiative.

The welcome desk online sign-up shows vacancies for upcoming weekends. Council members encouraged to sign up.

The ministry retreat scheduled for January 16 has been cancelled due to Dr. Helton's surgery.

Beth Renwick asked about the Stewardship policy for getting approval for posting information or putting handouts in the Gathering Area. Carolyn noted that it was not a Stewardship initiative but a staff policy that she had helped to write. In that case, Beth asked that it be shared more widely by the staff, as some ministries are unaware and have found their items on the floor of a closet. Sharon Landers asked if ministries/parishioners could be notified when postings they have placed are taken down.

### **Annual Plan Reports:**

**Baptism:** Erica Davis noted that parishioners are responding well to the call for sponsors, but those facilitating and those participating need child care. It is a hardship for couples with children to fully participate when they are also dealing

with children at their feet or only one parent can come because the other stays home with children. The need for nursery and child care is great.

**Marriage Prep:** Erica Davis reported that this ministry is going well. Dcn Guy Berry and Erica have reviewed the newly released Dynamic Catholic program, *Better Together* and found it to be excellent. However, we are bound by Diocesan guidance to use the *Fully Engaged* program for Marriage Preparation. Dcn Guy is considering the use of *Better Together* as a marriage enrichment program for those married for any number of years. Erica passed materials from *Better Together* to members to review.

**Reconciliation for Faith Formation:** Fr. John - Complete

**Mass/Anointing of Sick:** Covered in Father John's report.

**Blessing of Marriage/Milestones:** Covered in Father John's report.

**Mass Transit:** Covered in Stewardship report by Carolyn Gale.

**Welcome Desk:** Addressed in Stewardship report. Jeff Sylvester asked about problem with listing through internet noting that there is only one cell for each Mass. Once filled, there are no additional cells for others who wish to serve. Carolyn Gale responded that she will not enter her name so the cell will be available for others even when she is planning to be at a Mass. Moreover, Carolyn explained that it is not necessary to list with the online sign-up. Those additional volunteers who wish to help may do so without listing themselves online. A member noted that desk ministry volunteers have not covered the position before Mass. Carolyn responded that coverage is expected before and after Mass.

**100 Year Anniversary:** No update. Beth reported that the Real Estate Open House at the original church building had a good turnout and they had a banner at the entrance noting the building's 100 year anniversary.

**Find Your Greatness:** Beth reported 146 known ticket sales at present including local and online sales.

**Ecumenical Services:** Christine Mimms was not at the meeting but she reported to Beth that she hopes to work with Fr. John and Dr. Helton on ecumenical outreach. Christine suggested an invitation to the Village Chapel or another Faith Community to join us for a Lenten Stations of the Cross with a light soup lunch following as a good beginning.

Beth reported on another matter, not related to this annual plan goal, but reported to her by Christine. As directed by Father John at a previous meeting,

Christine and Carolyn Gale will attend the Called and Gifted workshop at St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill on January 26 to determine if that Discipleship initiative would be a good program to bring to Sacred Heart to encourage parishioners to identify their gifts and use them in ministry.

### **Announcements:**

Eric Westley outlined his involvement with St. John Paul II as an employee and member of their building committee, and also elaborated on the Diocesan high school study project.

Erica Davis reminded all of the Fr. Capodanno High School fundraiser at the Fair Barn on February 1. Cost is \$75.00 per person. Screenwriter Randall Wallace (Braveheart, Pearl Harbor, We Were Soldiers, and Secretariat) will be keynote speaker and local musician Becca Rae will entertain. Erica also noted that Fr. Mike Schmitz will give the Parish Mission at St. Anthony's March 11-13. She also reported that sound issues in the section of pews between the altar and the family room continue. In addition, she noted the need for more people to help with Children's Liturgy of the Word. Finally, Erica expressed confusion over where to seek guidance and budget support for the Faith and Fellowship Ministry. The Ministry falls under Paul Abbe as a part of Adult Faith Formation but as a ministry under Stewardship she was told to seek support from Dcn Guy who represents adult faith formation on the Stewardship Council. This is an unresolved concern. Another issue Erica raised on behalf of those who use the nursery is the frequent short-notice closings on Sundays and other days when some Ministries rely on it. She asked if additional staff could be trained to fill in when Mary Claire must be away.

Beth raised a question about access to the Adoration Chapel contrary to changes announced last year. Some adorers are still reluctant to open the door for others who come to participate. Father re-emphasized his commitment to provide access to all who wish to visit the Chapel, saying "I would rather close it down at night than turn people away."

Beth also noted the need to begin thinking about the annual plan for the 2019-20 and asked John Paulson to lead the effort with Mary Beth Griswold. Both John and Mary Beth agreed to work with Father on the next steps.

Adjourned: 9:05pm

Upcoming Dates: Pastoral Council Meeting – Tuesday, February 12, 7:00 PM