

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, March 19, 2019 7:00 PM

Members: Father John Forbes, Erica Davis, Mary Beth Griswold, Pat Haggerty, Sharon Landers, Christine Mimms, John Paulson, Joe Ptaszek, Eric Reisinger, Beth Renwick, Jeff Sylvester, Eric Westley, Stewardship Council Chair Carolyn Gale, Dcn Guy Berry, Father Javier Castrejon

Excused: Ann Lambrecht, Helen West

Opening Prayer Fr. John Forbes

Minutes – Approved

Pastor’s Report

Fr. John reported on budget planning for 2019-20 with improved forecasting and planning under new Finance Chair Edith Kaylor. With input collected from each ministry by the Stewardship Council, specific ministry budget plans will be included in the parish budget. There is no report from finance council at this meeting but will be shared as it is available. Year-to-date accounting: offertory is \$30,000 ahead of last year. Comments reported about Fr. John exhausting savings are not true. San Juan Diego mission has paid off loan for new construction ahead of schedule.

Regarding space planning, Fr. John reported a meeting with the architect to consider a building addition which was part of the original architectural drawings but not built. A 3000 square foot wing mirroring the education building but on the Chapel side of the Church would provide administrative offices and free up additional rooms for faith formation. In addition to office space, the plan calls for covered drop-off and sidewalk for access to the Church. Fr. John considers the one million dollar estimate for the addition as doable and appropriate. Moreover, he noted that his current office would be a good space for adult faith formation.

Fr. John addressed the circumstances related to the Catholic Church abuse problems and some people asking to stop talking about it and others wanting the public discussion to continue. There are also some complaints that he is not preaching enough about national political issues. Fr. John feels that there has been appropriate preaching about national issues. Fr. John also revisited the

“Dreaming With Our Parish” program/survey for 2019-20 planning that would solicit parishioner’s input. Fr. John feels it is important to demonstrate that we are responding as parishioners think we should to issues they feel are important to improve the parish.

Stewardship Report

Carolyn Gale reported good reviews of the ministry displays both at the coffee and donut events as well as those in the Gathering Area. Sarah and Ryan Mergen have volunteered to take over the Donut Social from Jack and Tina Schoenberger. A welcome dinner for newly registered parishioners will be held on March 23. Fr. John sent out 100 personal invitations to newcomers. Two declined and many did not respond. Forty-five people are expected. Carolyn also noted a need for people to serve at the Welcome desk. To free up bulletin space, the Stewardship Council removed the ministry list from the weekly bulletin and published it as a separate sheet to make it easier for parishioners to keep and post at home. A pilot project is under consideration to develop ministry leaders, stressing the issues of discipleship. It would follow the Stewardship International training. Both the Stewardship Council and Women of Sacred Heart will be looking at the newly formed homeless project for young women, currently homeless and in high school and college. Christine Mimms will attend the next board meeting. Carolyn also expressed frustration over the difficulty in recruiting leadership for ministries.

A general discussion of the issue of recruitment followed. Mary Beth Griswold commented on the difficulty of accessing the parish website to publicize these opportunities and other information related to Parish programs and initiatives, which resulted in a discussion of both recruitment for these ministries and participation in events in general. Carolyn reports that frequently she has encountered resistance from parishioners on making a full-year commitment. Eric Westley expressed his opinion regarding this problem suggesting that the most effective means to recruit involvement is to ask people directly and not just wait to receive responses to web and bulletin postings.

Annual Plan Steward Reports

G1:01 - G1:02 – Baptism and Marriage Preparation – Erica Davis reported that Deacon Guy had formalized a Meal Ministry to support parish families in need.

G1:03 – Reconciliation for Faith Formation – Fr. John is arranging for this Sacrament the weekend before Holy Week.

G1:O4 – Mass with communal Anointing of the Sick – Father John will arrange for another Anointing of the Sick service in the fall.

G1:O5 – Blessing of Marriages milestone anniversaries – Joe - June 1 has been set as the date for the combined celebration of milestone anniversaries.

G2:O1 – Mass transit ministry -- Carolyn Gale is still looking for a leader for this ministry but reports that this initiative is ongoing and given the lack of response seems to be serving those in need.

G2:O2 – Welcome Table. -- Reports are that the program is being well received and working as intended.

G3:O1

100 Year Anniversary/Parish Celebration – The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, June 28 is the date for a combined event marking this anniversary and the installation of Fr. John as pastor. Edith Kaylor is leading the effort to organize a reception following Mass. Jeff Sylvester asked about inviting past pastors, parochial vicars, etc. to this event. Fr. John supported doing so. Beth asked if the actual date of dedication of the “new” church, April 27, would be recognized. Fr. John said it would not.

Find Your Greatness (Dynamic Catholic) – Beth Renwick reports the event was successful and well-received.

Ecumenical Services – Fr. John said he would help more with this objective. Christine Mimms reported that a notice for Stations of the Cross schedule was placed in the Pilot.

Fr. Javier reported that things are going well at San Juan Diego Mission church. They are considering another fund-raising dinner, possibly in early May.

Annual Plan 2019-20

Fr. John suggested:

- Dreaming with the Parish Survey (begins Spring 2019): Fill in the blank, “It would be a great and wonderful thing if some day”
- Task force for Social Ministry - meeting the needs of those who ask for financial help from the parish
- Working Group for Communications Improvements

Beth recommended an objective to address long-term planning for Parish Missions since the best speakers are booked far in advance.

Member Questions/Comments

Joe Ptaszek asked about providing bags for the homeless mats. Carolyn Gale will follow up on this.

Beth Renwick asked about lack of publicity on our parish good works, such as the Elphie Sale for which an article had been submitted to the *Pilot*. It was noted that the article did appear online in the *Sandhills Sentinel*. Fr. John noted that an article about the parish repairs and renovation had been submitted to the *Pilot*.

Problems with Adoration continue. Erica Davis reported she was reprimanded by another adorer for bringing children to Adoration. Fr. John will contact that person to reaffirm the expectations for access to adoration. Beth asked whether people are free to come to Adoration only on the hour as an email from the Ministry head directs. Fr. John assured us that anyone may begin and/or end the time of their visit as they wish.

Fr. Javier noted that San Juan Diego's Confirmation is April 9 and that he would not attend the April meeting.

Fr. John reports that he is aware of nursery issues and is addressing them with those involved.

Upcoming Dates: Pastoral Council Meeting – Tuesday, April 9 at 7:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05pm