

## Parish Council Meeting Minutes 11-08-2018 Draft

Present: Father Tom, Jacob Visovatti, John DeJak, Marie Scrobola, John LaRock, Bridget Galbraith, Joseph Adams, Kurt Hiester

Absent: Deacon Papp, Gary Perrydore, Emily Shurtliff

Visiting: Tom Merlow, DRE

Father Tom opened with prayer and the council welcomed new council member, Kurt Hiester.

Father reviewed the purpose and function of a parish council.

Father reviewed the recent Chicken Run event with the council and requested feedback. Since it was not successful from a financial stand point, the council discussed whether the goal for future events like this should be for fun and social/community building.

- Those who participated in the run agreed that it was a fun event and the chicken was tasty.
- In 2017 there were 200 runners, this year there were 100
- There is a large fixed cost for a professional race organization to manage it for us
- Most of our registrations came from a running site
- The previous race company did more publicity for us
- This is a good practice event for serious runners

The council did not come to any conclusions regarding possible future events.

The council began the discussion and process of developing a parish mission statement. Jacob passed out a page of sample mission statements he had collected. Father introduced a program designed to help priests successfully administrate called: Good Leaders Good Shepherds. The council began with a three step exercise on how to create a vision, 'Crafting a Vision for the Parish'. Father outlined the steps the council will take to craft our vision statement.

The first step is visualization. Tom Merlow read Ephesians 4:11-12. Father read a passage from Pope Emeritus Benedict on St. Gregory the Great as an ideal of pastoral ministry.

The council discussed the benefits of having a parish vision statement.

- A vision statement helps us make decisions that fit our priorities.
- It gives visitors and idea of who we are.
- It gives direction to our leadership.

The council then discussed what would make our parish ideal?

What are our assumed constraints?

- Small budgets
- size and age of our facilities
- geography of parishioners
- membership turn over distress
- ratio of volunteers to non-volunteers

What could happen if we employed 'The Grasshopper Effect' [as described in Good Leaders Good Shepherds]

- Extraordinary Form Mass every week
- More Liturgical year devotions i.e. feast days, Ember Days, Golden Mass, Rogation Days,

### Churching of Women

- ministries to youth and families, new moms
- pro-life activities
- encourage vocations
- scripture studies

What if we could not fail?

- Adoration chapel
- gym
- larger music program
- increase opportunities for Catholic culture through the liturgy, music, speakers
- mission trip or pilgrimage
- door to door evangelization
- funeral luncheon ministry

The next step will be to craft a role related purpose statement.