Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative  
Parish Pastoral Council  
February 3, 2020

Peter Lando (co-chair)  
Scott Davidson (co-chair)  
Father Brian Mahoney  
Father Corey Bassett-Tirrell (absent)  
Seminarian Andrew John Rondelli  
Ellen St. George  
Beth Jacavanco (absent)  
Katrina Horan  
Ray Wagner (absent)  
Chicki Rigazio  
Mike Condor  
Angie McMaster  
Drew Jubinville (absent)  
Lori McDonald  
Delaney Schiefen (youth) (absent)  
Steve McMillan (absent)  
Jessica Hagg (absent)  
Paul Therrien  
Laura Conte  
Augustine Tweneh (absent)  
Karen Drake  
Rob Donnelly (absent)  
Cathy Latina  
Matthew Kunze (youth) (absent)

Liturgy of the hours

(please note: action items are highlighted in red)

1. Approval of January 2020 Minutes - several members approved the January minutes

2. Fr. Brian updates

   a. Facilities/projects -- status update: Father Brian provided an update regarding the lift at St. Mary Church. The old lift has been removed and discarded. The door has been replaced with a temporary plywood door until the new door is installed. The project is planned to be completed by the end of March 2020. Approximate costs of the project: $55K. However, funds have been raised to cover this expense. Also at St. Mary Church is the ongoing work to replace the ramp for the disabled due to issues with metal plates rusting out. Ramp repair costs, currently out to bid, are estimated to be between $70K-$80k. At St. John Parish, the heating system needs considerable work, scaffolding to repair the roof is a concern that is being addressed, and the new parish center’s poor construction continues to be an issue. Fr. Brian mentioned that he would like to form a committee to look into issues related to the new parish center at St. John Parish. The sound systems, in both parish halls, are in the process of being replaced.
Lori McDonald suggested that the community receive notification to come early to mass if they are in need of special access to the parish while construction is ongoing.

b. Offertory variances SM, SJ

Father Brian asked Paul Therrien (who also serves on the Finance Council) to provide an update and analysis on changes to the offertory collections and budget since last December and to present it to the PPC at a later meeting. Fr. Brian stated that, in summary, St. John Parish is on target and St. Mary Church is a bit under projections. The mortgage expense of $57K month for the new building at St. Mary Church was mentioned. Fr. Brian suggested a Grand Annual Fundraiser where funds are collected specifically to pay down the principal of this mortgage. Angie McMaster asked, what was the original fund drive results and how were the collected funds allocated? She also asked, is there anyway to generate additional revenue from the building? Fr. Brian stated that taxes will have to be paid if space was rented. Additionally, the building is used frequently.

3. Fr. Brian has a question for us.

Context: At the last Archdiocese Presbyteral Council meeting, issues pertaining to church collaboratives and the decrease in the number of priests was discussed. A comparison was made between the 1950’s (when the church served the community differently, i.e. social groups, schools and community) and 2020 (when for the most part, possibly due to social and cultural changes, Catholic lives do not revolve around their church). The discussion prompted the priests to consider that the church has not responded to these social and cultural changes and the following questions were raised: Are we (the leaders of the church) focusing on maintaining buildings more than caring for our people? Maybe we need to rethink what it means to be a parish? Have we developed a consumer mentality? In the 1950, churches and families were structured in similar ways. The family
dynamic has changed, has the church responded accordingly? Like Jesus, we need to meet people where they are.

In light of this discussion, Fr. Brian has asked the PPC to consider the following questions and then to reach out to our community asking them: What does it mean for us to be a community of faith in 2020? What does it mean to be a parish? How are we bringing others to Christ? What is it that would draw you back to the catholic church? How can the church serve its community better? Are we meeting people where they are?

4. New initiatives –

The CCC Community Outreach Committee distributed the attached proposed flyer to the counsel. Fr. Brian asked for the PPC committee to review this document and to be prepared to submit feedback at the next PPC meeting. The counsel will discuss changes to the document, set the date for distribution in the bulletin and determine whether or not to release the flyer to the secular community.


6. Round Table

Chicki Rigazio asked, would it be possible to hold our religious education program during summer?

Angie McMaster mentioned that the PPC youth members are not listed in bulletin. A reminder that the March14th St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held at St. John Parish. Prayer requests for Rich Warren and Avery Nedow were made.

Closing Prayer

Next meeting: March 1, 2020
The newly formed CCC Community Outreach Committee is seeking interested candidates who would like to share their gifts, talents, skills or areas of expertise with our faith community as well as to the general public.

The group's mission is to offer an annual or semi-annual event or program open to the public that builds community connections with the hope of providing an opportunity to evangelize and to live in collaboration with God and each other.

Listed below are some potential events/programs, or make a pitch for your own event or program. If you are interested in being a facilitator or a presenter, please complete the application on the reverse side.

List of Potential Community Outreach Events

- Cooking Class / Cooking Competition
- Community Garden on St. Mary or St. John's Property
- Gingerbread House Competition or Winter Festivities to coincide with the Town's Tree Lighting Ceremony
- Cultural Food Festival or Farmer's Market
- Retreat: Spiritual Gifts (Charisms)
- Souper Bowl Event (local chefs or amateur chefs prepare soups during lent)
- Start a Hiking Club or Walking Club
- Financial Planning Class
- Landscape Design
- Women's Self Defense

Candidates, kindly complete the application (see revise side).
CCC Community Outreach Application

Name __________________________ Email __________________________

Phone ______________ Outreach Program Name __________________

Summary of Proposed Program or Presentation:

_________________________________________________________________
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_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
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Duration of Presentation _________________________________________

Dates & Times Available ____________________________________________

Materials/Technology Needed _______________________________________

Submit Completed Application by mm/dd/2020 to:

Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative
c/o: CCC Community Outreach Committee
115 Middlesex Street
N. Chelmsford, MA 01863