

St. Mary Magdalene Parish
 Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
 January 20, 2020
 6:30 – 8:00 pm
 Parish Office

Attendance:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Lois Campbell | | Peter Lahoda |
| Janice Reed | Linda Atkins | Teresa Maynor | Geloria White |
| Denise Prochownik | Eric Setzler | Dante Romito | Joan Price |
| Fr. Thomas Burke | Fr. David Taylor | | |

- 1 Opening Prayer
 - The opening prayer was offered by Lois Campbell.

- 2 Council Formation: The Foundations for Pastoral Leadership
 - Council spent some time discussion the first section of the Diocese’s Pastoral Council handbook

- 3 Approval of Minutes
 - Linda requested a revision to the December meeting minutes, stating that we discussed encouraging all Pastoral Council members to make an effort to visit each of our 3 church buildings. This was added to the minutes.
 - Minutes from the December meeting were approved as revised.

- 4 Comments from Fr. Tom
 - The installation Mass was a big success. It was an emotional day for Fr. Tom.

- 5 Debrief of January 11th Installation Mass and Celebration
 - It was agreed that the event was a big success with good attendance. However, it was noted that the number of attendees from St. Bede and Mother of Good Council was not as high as we would have liked.
 - Those involved in planning indicated that communication was not as good as we would have liked, and there was some unclear areas of responsibility. The general consensus was that this is a result of merging 3 sets of parish staff and volunteers, and that it will improve over time (with effort). It is suggested that we make a concerted effort to improve communication as we continue to work through the merger.
 - Some thought that the Bishop could have emphasized the founding of the parish more than he did.
 - The Mass felt like a celebration (as it was one!), and we need to keep that celebratory atmosphere in our parish. We should plan a future celebration specifically about the birth of our new parish (as this Mass

was primarily focused on the installation of our new pastor, not on the creation of the parish itself).

6 Planning retreat

- The retreat will be held at St. John Fisher on Saturday February 15th from 9:00 to 3:00.
- The facilitator will be John Flaherty.
- PPC, PFC, and parish staff will be invited. Also, we will identify 3-4 leaders from each parish to be invited. The St. James list is identified. St. Bede and MGC pastoral council members will work to identify invitees from those churches.
- We are asking invitees to engage in the mission and vision process, which is starting with the retreat on 2/15.
- Keith Butler will cater the lunch. Janice will contact him.
- Lois, Teresa, and Dante volunteered to coordinate logistics.

7 Priorities for 2020: initial discussion

- We had a discussion on setting priorities for the coming year. The following key areas were identified:
 - o Mission statement
 - o Merge committees
 - o Reengage St. Bede committees
 - o Schedule gatherings for various groups (i.e. Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, social committee members, etc.) to encourage folks to meet each other and collaborate. This would be in a “food and fellowship” format.
 - o Communicating the available meeting spaces at all buildings to those scheduling meetings may help to allow people to understand why meetings or events are held at one particular church or another.

8 Corpus Christi Church ritual celebration

- The Baptist Church currently renting the Corpus Christi building has not been able to complete the purchase yet. The concern is that they may not have the money.
- There is another potential buyer, but they would need to be approved by Diocese.
- It was asked whether or not we could have a closing ceremony without a handover to a new owner? This could provide closure to our parishioners.

9 New Business / Announcements

- Holy Rosary Church:
 - o There has some interest in purchasing the church from a nonprofit that would like to use it as a cultural/community center.

- The Spriggs-Watson Funeral Home would like to rent it as extra space to use for viewings.
 - Current status of St. Bede School:
 - Fundraising for St. Bede School remains at St. Bede School (as opposed to being directed to a general East Regional Schools fund).
 - St. Bede is still managing finances for school, but this should transfer to East Regional Schools by July 1.
 - Dante recommended the program called The 99, An Evangelization Mission Series, published by Ascension Press. This could be a great resource for a parish mission.
- 10 Comments from Fr. Taylor
- On the holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr., Fr. Taylor reflected on how the challenges during his time are similar to the challenges of today. At that time segregation of blacks and whites was legal. Now it is illegal, but there is still segregation in many people's hearts. This may be tougher to deal with since it can be hidden.
- 11 Closing Prayer
- The closing prayer was offered by Fr. Taylor.

The next meeting will be Monday February 17, 2020 at Holy Rosary Rectory.