

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2020

Present:

Pastoral Council: Laura Kolbe, Mary Haugen, Mindy Muglia, Corwin Bryan, Gary Kirkland, Paige Cutter, Mike Brown, Sherry Schmidt (Altar Society)

Absent: Tim Gray (Knights of Columbus), Sister Paschalina

Staff: Father Connall, Sister Sharon, Father Ratuiste,

OPENING PRAYER – Led by Father Connall

LENTEN PRESENTATIONS

What would be helpful to the parish? Suggestions: Wednesday evening adult education on life issues (end of life, abortion, contraception), human sexuality issues (gender identity, same-sex parents), social issues (immigration, homelessness, religious liberty, role of men in our culture). All of these issues affect someone in our parish – they have touched their life. How do we respond in charity to a family with a gay son or a trans-daughter? Have a speaker series, bringing in people working in or with experience in the topic area. We have an obligation to speak the truth. What does the Church actually teach?

Another suggestion was made to hold a session on Fridays after the 5:15pm Stations of the Cross. 6:00 – 6:30pm (20 minute presentation with 10 minutes for questions and comments. The above discussion will be brought to the Staff Meeting. The Staff will prepare a list of potential speakers to present at the February Pastoral Council meeting.

A. FOCUS MINISTRY AT THE CATHEDRAL – Father Ratuiste

Father reported on what is taking place. “Why am I a priest? I believe in the Gospel and the world needs to hear it. FOCUS is involved in campus ministry, Bible Study but also evangelization - sustainable on a personal level. On a program level the Cathedral does catechesis, has a Moms’ Group and Men’s Group. On an interpersonal level – enable interpersonal relationships so that the Gospel remains front and center (like having a life coach). FOCUS is a supplement for growth in our parish – one-to-one relationships, capacity to extend and receive friendship. FOCUS would be a partner with us for evangelization. What would it look like? Father is working with a group of couples who have a mindset of evangelization, are school parents and lead the RCIA to form faithful and fruitful parishioners. It is calling more people to mission. FOCUS centers on divine intimacy in Christ – a spiritual multiplication – to form authentic Christian friendships, share stories which bring people to Christ and be disciple-makers. Ask ourselves, “Who are you accompanying?”

A Practical Proposal if we are open in principle to FOCUS:

Work with the office of Evangelization

Have workshops on discipleship

Have quarterly “upper room” events

Attend the National Conference

Individually sponsor someone in the parish

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Support diocesan efforts with FOCUS
Evaluate efforts by –parish registration, collection, RCIA retention.

RECTOR'S REPORT

CHESTERTON ACADEMY

Has support and enthusiasm.

A Benefit Gala will be held Feb. 13. This will be the biggest fundraiser.

A 501C3 has been filed.

Need to plan for the relationship between the parish and the school.

Whose responsibility is it to take care of specific things. Who pays for what?

We have had 32 applications, 24 have registered.

CATHEDRAL CAMPAIGN FOR SECOND CENTURY – part III.

When to begin – during Lent, after tax refunds?

Our rebate from ACA will be closer to \$50,000.

Case for the Campaign: change in minimum wage, furnace issues, the towers, protected glass on the stain-glass windows.

Pledge would be for three years; could pledge for specific items.

Remind parishioners what has been done so far.

Need for a drive for registrations.

NOVENA

Schedule has been in the bulletins

Priests who will present: Fathers Connall, Ratuiste, McNeese, Barnett, and Bishop Skysltad who will preach on the last evening.

SECURITY

We have engaged Metro. They are proving to be helpful, passionate, and when called they come immediately.

HELPING THE POOR

We still continue our sandwich ministry, but now sandwiches are taken to the Library and the House of Charity for distribution.

NEXT MEETING

February 12, 2020, 12:30-2:00pm (this meeting cancelled)

UPDATE ON PARISH MINISTRY REPORTS

An example of a ministry report has been put on the Pastoral Council website.

WHAT HAVE YOU

Gala for Notre Dame – Thursday, February 13, 2020. Oral Auction item suggested – parking spot in staff area for Christmas, Easter, Sundays. Start with a

minimum bid. Parish Council members agreed. Father Connall will talk to the priests and staff.

Is there a plan to build an altar rail? There are no plans as of now. More dialogue is needed. Two pre-dieus could be provided.

Notre Dame School – progressing well. In the process of hiring teachers. Decision has been made to allow seniors if a younger sibling is enrolled.

Annual Catholic appeal – we have met our diocesan goal, plus \$2,000 of the extra \$40,000.

Security – we now have Metro. They are proving very professional.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 12:45pm