

St. Adalbert/OLBS

Notes/Minutes from our
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Held on Thursday, December 5, 2013

Members Present: *Pastor* Fr. Gary Chmura, *Chairperson* Irene Morrison, members Rebecca Blair, Phillis Clippis, Regina Fortner, Linda Gamble, Lisa Johnson, Walter Napier, Joyce Sanders, Michael Stitts, and Warren Walcott; also present: Nancy McIntosh from OLP
Not able to attend: Rachel Meeks

We all shared in an Opening Prayer

No corrections to the Minutes, but we had a clarification: term of membership on Council is 2 years; term for Officers is 2 years. Note: all agreed this will be modified for this first term, so that we will have staggered terms and continuity. We'll address this in January.

Nancy McIntosh returned to work with us, conducted short training re: collaboration and consensus in decision-making, for PPC's and any parish groups. Details are on handouts.

Discussion: We need By-laws or **Guidelines**. Decisions already:

- Meetings to be held on first Thursday of every month (except if too close to a holiday)
 - Meetings to start 6:30 PM, finish 8:00 PM, in Harris Hall.
 - Members to rotate leading Opening and Closing Prayers each month.
 - *Executive Secretary* Phillis will take Minutes each month and distribute them in a timely manner (within approx. one week after each meeting) to members – to start in Feb., 2014.
- ◇ Nancy M. will record Minutes for Dec. 2013 and Jan. 2014 meetings

Not Yet Decided on Guidelines...

- * ..If we want to take off having a meeting for a month or more each year – i.e., July?
- * ..How will we communicate regularly to the entire parish? For example, who will make up at least one "blurb" with PPC Highlights for the Bulletin each month?
- * ..Whether we want to have fixed times for social gatherings for our group – holidays, beginning or end of Council year, etc. Or do we want socials at all?
- * ..If we want to have members rotate bringing snacks each month, or...skip snacks?
- * ..Whether or not we want to send "sunshine" type cards to members of the community on behalf of the PPC – such as when someone dies, when someone is very ill, a marriage, a Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation – any or all or none of these?
- * ..Other details?

GOALS: Discussion and Decisions: Please see reverse for Goals and all related details

Pastor and Chair's Closing Remarks: Fr. Gary noted that we will host the ***Faith of Africa*** Mass (a large diocesan-wide event) here at St. A's next year, on June 29, 2014. Save the date and we'll start planning early in 2014.

Evangelizing Sisters of Mary have official approval to proceed, and we should hear more of this in the months to come

Please turn over for more >>

NEW 2014 PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL GOALS

Overall Suggestions for our new Goals:

- * Use Social Media wherever possible and appropriate – there's lots we can do here!
- * Consider forming new parish committees to implement some of our goals.

1. To bring more parishioners into our parish, including former members and new members, and to heighten awareness of our presence in the community.

Working on this goal: Joyce Linda Warrene

Some suggestions to implement this goal:

- * All of us should be more personally welcoming when we see people at Sunday Mass; reach out and have a conversation with them!
- * Branding: Have stationery, cards and other papers with St. Adalbert/OLBS and our contact information on it, to "announce" every time and to all who we are
- * Choose a time and conduct a parish census; combine this with re-registration for all
- * Create flyers to pass out to people in the community around us. Get these out to the hospitals, newer developments nearby, and others – *Fr. Gary will work on flyer for January*
- * Have a "Welcome Back Sunday" and personally invite all former parishioners
- * PPC Host a Coffee Hour after Mass one Sunday while wearing badges that say, "Name, PPC, Ask Me"
- * Organize a Parish Picture Directory in conjunction with Our Lady of Peace – Fall, 2014 - *Nancy McIntosh will look into possible date options for next autumn*
- * Check out options for using our vans to transport people to and from Sunday Mass

2. To improve communication between our parish and our school.

Working on this goal: Lisa Regina Phillis Walter

Some ideas to help implement this goal:

- * Find ways to encourage more teachers and school families to attend Mass in our church.
- * Invite the School Principal to a PPC meeting on a future date
- * Attend School Christmas Program on Dec. 18, 2013, 6:30 PM – a good place to start

3. To help improve the financial status of the parish.

Working on this goal: Mike Becky Phillis (Rachel here as well?)

Some ideas to help implement this goal:

- Host fund-raisers during the year; number of events, timing, what the events specifically should be are all still to be determined.

Each PPC member has agreed to work on one of the above goals, thus forming small committees within the Council, to work independently and come back to the PPC with their decisions and action items. We will invite parishioners to join these committees, too.

We closed the meeting with a prayer and adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy

Nancy McIntosh, *Pastoral Associate*
Our Lady of Peace

e-mailed to members Dec. 11, 2013
sent regular mail to one member