

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 5, 2016
Jesuit Residence

Attendees: Father Bob VerEecke, S.J, Pastoral Council members Adel O'Regan (Vice Chair), Stephen Alfieri, John Karle, Bob Lepisko, Charles Mileski, Debbi Olley Murphy, David Pais, Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe
Absent: Jack Schmitt (Chair), Kathleen Cagnina

1. Opening Prayer: David Pais
2. Pastor's Report
 - Father Bob and Father Sean have been attending to the post-election pastoral needs of our parish.
 - The community has responded to the creation of the peace garden and Advent wreath with enthusiasm.
 - *For the Greater Glory of God*, a movie about the life of St. Ignatius (with Father Bob in that role), was screened on Wednesday, November 16, to positive response.
 - Father Bob had the annual meeting with Xavier's board of trustees; the board members discussed parish finances, demographics, and other topics.
 - Father Bob also met with the board of the Xavier Mission, which requested that the parish forgive its debt. Subsequently, he met with the Finance Council. It was agreed that, specifically in this year of mercy, forgiving the mission's debt was a good response.
3. Discussion of St. Francis Xavier's Annual Report (2016)
 - The annual report, which is available in the back of the church and will soon be up on the website, includes financials from the past year.
 - It is a document that outlines all that Xavier does, and describes our activities, ministries, and stewardship.
4. Spiritual Director Formation Program

- Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, who serves on the program's advisory committee, informed the Pastoral Council that interviews of prospective spiritual directors were conducted.
- There will be 11 candidates admitted into the program, which starts in January and will run for 18 months.

5. Election Season Prayer Services

- The final prayer group met the day after the election: Wednesday, November 9. It was a meaningful and necessary activity.

6. Planning for February 4, 2017 Retreat

- Father Bob plans to have another open meeting to discuss liturgical plans for Lent and Easter; the community's response and suggestions will subsequently be discussed at the retreat.
- An examen will be part of the retreat.

7. Update on Ignatian Spirituality, Outreach, and Immigration Subcommittees

- The Ignatian Spirituality subcommittee reviewed a number of suggestions; one of the primary ones it will address is working with ISEL and Lay Spirits to reach out to ministry leadership. There is certainly interest on the part of the ministries to bring Ignatian Spirituality to the forefront.
- Father Bob also mentioned the possibility of having an examen after communion during Lenten masses. Making the examen a more regular part of the Xavier community is a priority of the subcommittee, so this dovetails nicely.
- The Outreach subcommittee planned its first wine and cheese reception following the 5 p.m. mass on Sunday, December 4. It was very successful, with an enthusiastic response from attendees. The subcommittee will plan for another wine and cheese after a Saturday evening mass in February 2017.
- The Immigration subcommittee has scheduled a meeting for Sunday, December 11.

8. New Business

- Adel O'Regan apprised the Pastoral Council of the women's march in D.C. which is planned for the day after the inauguration. Both The Women Who Stayed and Catholic Lesbians ministries are in the process of organizing bus trips from New York.
- Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe raised the possibility of connecting with faith communities in other parts of the country, specifically following the 2016 election, as a way to open lines of communication as much as possible and find a way forward.

9. Closing Prayer: David Pais