

## Pastoral Council Agenda

August 1, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Council Room

In Attendance: Fr. Nolker, Fr. Reif, Deacon Crooker, Tim Meyer, Nancy Phillips, Ed Lanter, Jim Purtell, Eric Keller, Tom Shornak

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| I.  | <b>Opening Prayer</b>                        | All |
| II. | <b>Christ at the Center: Faith Formation</b> | All |

Reading: **Gospel of St. John 6:24-35**

Reflection: ***What does it mean to you when Jesus says, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."***

If you give your life to Jesus he will take care of you. He sent Jesus to all of us. Jesus is essential to our life. One who believes finds a feeling of contentment. Jesus is your nourishment in life; his example is what you should follow. Will give you that joy and contentment

He inspires us to go to him, to help other people, so we all have life through him. There are two different ideas here: "whoever comes to me" is fed the bread of life, and "whoever believes in me" is provided nourishment.

On radio station 740 am, this has been discussed. The protestant belief is that if you believe in Jesus you will be saved, but belief isn't enough. The devil believes in Jesus. You have to act on your faith.

### III. **Pastor's "State of the Parish" Report** **Fr. Nolker**

--Our parish has 1734 families, 5430 parishioners. This reflects an increase in both areas. To be a stable parish is unheard of today.

--We "lost" 33 households. These were single person households, lost due to death. Who are the People of St. James?

-The 21-35 age group is misleading, and likely wrong. Families don't take their kids who have moved out/gotten married/are off at college off of the census. New parishioners are in their 20's-30's.

- 51 and older group: there is very little ministry to this group, yet they are one of the largest demographics. 2000 of 6000 parishioners are in the elderly category.
- October Sunday mass count is way down. Sunday sports severely impact church attendance. There is also a 40% decline in Sunday mass attendance throughout the Archdiocese.
- St. James church capacity is 850.
- School enrollment is ~550.
- PSR: ~93% of our registered Catholic kids attend our school. PSR served 30 kids last year.
- VIRTUS: 149 participants, of which 55 are parishioners
- We won't know the proceeds of the festival until November. The weather cooperated, but not sure if more money was spent. A large number of people attend festivals to follow their favorite band. They come, sit and listen to the band, and leave.

#### **IV. Review of Topics for 2018-2019**

Fr. Nolker

Proposed ideas for Pastoral Council to review, such as: **A.** Review of the existing policy on fund raising by parish groups. Review the policy? Enforce It? **B.** Review of Parish Vision Statement. **C.** Study of the salary scale of professional and non school employees. Have only been giving cost of living raises or less to professional non school employees. Teacher raises are approximately 2% plus a step. **D.** Youth Ministry. **E.** Ministry to Seniors.

Response from Council: Would like to see/hear from committees and understand what they do. Start with *Policy for Financial Activities of Parish Organizations*, and invite various committees.

#### **V. Youth Ministry update**

Fr. Reif

St. Ignatius is interested in a combined youth ministry, but the Pastor is new, and wants to get a handle on the parish first.

#### **VI. Pastor's Comments**

Fr. Nolker

March 13th is meeting-new meeting.

There are new guidelines for Eucharistic Ministers, which Tim Crooker will be involved with. Medical Emergency Team: Tim Meyer (?) to talk to the people involved with this and ask them to organize themselves, and let us know what they plan to do. There is an organization called CMA: Catholic Medical Association. Chapters throughout the US. Is an organization of doctors who are Catholic.

175th Anniversary Celebration went well. Pictures were in Catholic Telegraph. Activities have wound down. The 3 ladies on the 175th Anniversary Committee have done a great job. The family story boards were a fantastic idea. Nancy Phillips is chairing the Parish Directory. A couple in the parish has agreed to pay for a booklet of 175 facts about the parish. Will sell this and likely use the proceeds as an outreach for something in the community.

RCIA Report: "It's fun and everyone should go through it!" Seriously, if you know of anyone interested, direct them to Deacon Tim. Tim encourages Council to have a conversation about faith, interfaith couples, etc. We evaluate where each candidate is, and tailor the program to these peoples' needs. RCIA recipients' testimony to new candidates was powerful, and the new RCIA group greatly benefited. They all remained in the program.

**VII. Night Prayer**

All

Ed Lanter will present the brief Scripture during Night Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jenny Gandenberger

**Next Meeting September 5, 2018**