



Saint James the Greater Church
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Pastoral Council Meeting
March 13, 2019
7:00 p.m.
Council Room

Present: Fr. Nolker, Fr. Reif, Deacon Crooker, Ed Lanter, Nancy Phillips, Evan Day, Jenny Nienaber, Tom Schornak, Tim Meyer, Jim Purtell, Eric Keller, Nancy Thomas

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| I. | Opening Prayer | All | 7:00 p.m. |
| II. | Christ at the Center: Faith Formation | All | 7:05 – 7:20 p.m. |

Reading:	Luke 9:28-36
Reflection:	What would you have thought (or done) if you were with the disciples that day?

In Luke they did hear His voice, God the Father. If I had heard his voice, I would be afraid. I picture Him being loud.
Think of Elisha, when they were all climbing up the mountain, and all of the activity, yet they heard God's voice. I envision God's voice to be soft, quiet, and calming.
In Exodus, the proclamation of the 10 Commandments was loud. From then on the people said, "Don't let God speak to us again or we will die. From then on God's voice was a whisper, soft. A cloud is always a symbol of God's presence.
How would you react? That is the question. Moses and Elisha had appeared there. The people would recognize the presence of God
Where are they coming from? The cloud says this is God. But the people didn't really understand until after the resurrection.
"They fell silent..." When they saw this sight, they likely didn't say anything because, who would believe them. They did not understand fully who God was; that comes so much later. Luke was written for the "poor people" the outcasts.
About 10 years ago, the Archdiocesan Call to Vocations referenced the movie The Matrix, with the point being that God calls to us quietly, subtly, persistently.

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| III. | Youth Ministry Review | Fr. Reif | 7:20-7:45 p.m. |
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Youth Ministry should have a catechetical and faith base. At St. James we have a school, scouts, AHGs, PSR. Our youth programs and sports all have a charter to bring faith into their programs. School PTO supported youth programs: Rockin Jump, end of graduation dance, mom and son night, dad and daughter dance. At the church we have youth readers, ushers, servers, youth choir, Eucharistic ministers. Our Liturgy also forms faith. Following graduating from St. James, few of these youths go to public high schools (6,3, and 2 students in the last 3 years).

So the question now is, what does Pastoral Council want us to do? 3 primary options: 1, Form a youth group and hire a Youth minister here at St. James. 2. Consolidate our youth group with another parish. 3. Do nothing.

St. Ignatius has invited us also, and provided their program(s) itinerary to us. St. I's pastor did not seem interested in combining youth ministry with St. James at a previous meeting.

I did research in November, called many parishes of varying sizes. It was eye opening. My personal recommendation: join with the St. Bart's youth ministry program. There currently is a group of St. James kids (10-15 St. James high school kids) already doing activities with kids at St. Barts. St. Ann parish has youth going to St. Bart's. On any given night, there could be as many as 40 kids at a St. Bart's youth program.

If we join with St. Bart's, what would be the financial expectation?

Clearly it is not financially viable to start/fund a St. James youth ministry program. And no one wants to say we don't do anything. So it sounds like the recommendation would be to join with another parish.

Who would we join with? St. Bart's isn't that far. A consideration would be what kind of contractual/financial arrangement would we be obligated to? Most realistic would be to join St. Ignatius, St. Bart's. What happens down the road if we have only 1-2 kids involved?

Fr. Nolker: Thank you for your input and work that has been done. The practicality and thoroughness of what you have done is very helpful; parish surveying years ago was not as helpful as this current effort. What would it cost to join into another parish's youth ministry? And if we are paying, then we should have a say about what goes on. The volleyball program that St. James plays with St. Bart's is run by the West Side Youth Consortium (???). St James covers the cost of ?????

Fr. Reif will investigate this issue further.

IV. New Members Fr. Nolker 7:45-8:00 p.m.

The terms for three members expire this May: Ed Lanter, Jenny Nienaber, Tom Schornak. Each is eligible for another term if they wish. If we could have some indication from them about their intentions it would be helpful.

It's good to have new blood on Council. Both Ed and Tom state that if viable candidates are not identified, they would entertain staying on Council. The next PC term starts in June; ends in May. So current PC members should be talking with parishioners to recruit people to come to an informational meeting run by Deacon Tim. Then we ask these people to discern if they feel called to serve on PC.

V. Pastor's Comments Fr. Nolker 8:00-8:10 p.m.

We are in the budget process. On April 4th, the School Advisory Committee will meet with Mr. Fulmer and confirm school budget. On April 15th, hopefully Finance Committee will approve it. The budget will balance. This will include tuition figures for next year. We have 535 potential students for next year (562 students at St. James School currently). Kindergarten next year is very small.

We got word from the Archdiocese that "Theology of the Body" will be integrated into the school, all grades, next year. This will impact the budget, as there will be costs associated with the materials required for this program. Jeff's dream is to keep tuition at \$3,999. Our significant competitor (St. I's) has not yet announced their tuition for next year.

Fr. Nolker will send out budget, tuition information, for PC to review once completed.

The new doors are here for the church.

We are gathering bids for replacement of the doors into the cafeteria, and the Hubble road doors of the church. They will be more tamper proof.

Capital Improvements for summer: parking lot repair, asbestos tile removal in the school.

We deal with all kinds of unusual issues in any given day in the parish office.

VI. Night Prayer All 8:10 p.m.
Tim Meyer will present the brief Scripture reading during Night Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenny Gandenberger

Next Meeting
April 3, 2019