



Saint James the Greater Church

3565 Hubble Road

Cincinnati, Ohio 45247

Phone: 513.741.5300 Fax: 513.741.5302

info@stjameswhiteoak.com

Pastoral Council Minutes September 6, 2017 - 7:00 p.m. Council Room

I. Opening Prayer

II. Christ at the Center: Faith Formation

Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Reflection: What is the best way for the Church (and each of us) to “dissuade the wicked from his way” as we deal with the issues of today? What are those issues?

Discussion: We must pray to speak out in a non-violent way. Speaking kindly to others is important. People are losing faith in all churches/denominations; faith is not a serious thing for many. Relativism is killing so much of our Judeo/Christian culture/context. We must lead by example.

III. 175th Anniversary of the Parish

Conni Weaver is a member of the Anniversary Committee. She talked about the events they have planned to celebrate this anniversary throughout 2018. The Planning Team started more than a year ago. They worked with three main points: 1) this is a huge event for the parish; 2) it should follow the liturgical year; 3) there would be no new events but we build on what exists.



This is the logo that will be used. It was suggested that we have it on a banner across the front of the school and on the church, at least on the west parking lot side. The Team wanted something simple that could be used in a variety of ways.

History Displays: They would like each family to create a history board. Everybody has a history with the parish and these family histories would be displayed throughout the year. They will request them in October so they can be used beginning in November. Families can bring them in any time in the year. There will be a suggested uniform size. They will be given back to the families at the end of the year.

Commemorative Items: These will be ornaments, mugs and T shirts. All organization will be encouraged to use the logo on their own materials. (Conni is covering the cost of all these.) They will place a first order to see what people will want. They can order more or give away what nobody wants.

Events: There will be a pamphlet that will outline the events for the year. This will be given out in the fall. There will be an anniversary spot in the bulletin each week to highlight events. They will also include 175 facts about the parish in that space throughout the year.

Nov 26 Solemnity of Christ the King
Kick-off Weekend. Coffee/donuts after the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses. The Team will have the history boards in the hall and be there after ALL Masses.

Lent Fish Fry
They will work with that committee to put the logo on the decorations, crafts for kids, etc.

May 20 Solemnity of Pentecost
Archbishop Schnurr will be here for the 12:00 noon Mass. This will be the “blow out” for the celebration. Mass will be followed by a reception with small bites. (It was thought a sit down dinner was too much and not appealing to people. It would have had a program and people would have to make a commitment to the whole afternoon.)

July Festival

August Parish Picnic
They are planning on running a bus from the parish to Stricker’s Grove for a late afternoon event aimed at our senior citizens. This would include entertainment and food. This would end as the rest of the crowd arrives. It’s a way to pay special attention to this group of parishioners.

Fall Pictorial Directory
This is scheduled so that pictures of the anniversary events can be included.

There was discussion on the need for publicity and advertising. There should be articles in the Catholic Telegraph and in the local papers. We need to be “heavy” on publicity. (*Conni sent her power point presentation for everyone.*)

IV. Pastoral Associate

Father Nolker outlined the changes in the Pastoral Associate job description. With Nic Kovatch leaving it was appropriate to review this. Deacon Tim Crooker has taken over the PA job. Father pointed out that the position is now part-time instead of full time. Two time-consuming elements have been taken out of the responsibilities: Young Adult Formation and Youth Ministry. The Young Adult Ministry has become independent of the parish and meets at St. John Neumann Parish. We will continue to publicize their events. There is a quiet search going on for someone to head Youth Ministry to teens. The goal is to have 6 events a year. This position would involve maybe 8 hours a month and would a paid position.

There was discussion about what Youth Ministry is. Father pointed out that Youth Ministry is not social events but each Youth Ministry event has to include some faith formation. This is the core of this ministry. Faith Formation is now part of the Athletic Charter from the Archdiocese. It is an essential component when following the directions of the Conference of Bishops and of our Archdiocese on Youth Ministry.

V. Pastor’s Comments

Father didn’t have any other comments.

VI. Night Prayer

Eric Keller presented the brief Scripture during Night Prayer.