

Saint Mary Catholic Faith Community
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2017

Attendance – 6:30 pm

Present: Julie Behrman, Clem Budny, Matt Cool, Colleen Czajka, Tom Fredrickson, Jeff Kacala, Jim Maro, Fred Matestic, Daniel O'Connor, Tim Reidy, Jim Schubilske, Carol Stachowiak, and Gina Styer

Excused: Eric Karakis, Fr. Brian Mason, and Suzie Ryder

Opening Prayer

Julie Behrman led Scriptural reflection.

Review of 11/14/16 Pastoral Council Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved as written by those in attendance.

Outcomes from the follow-up discussion concerning the 12/05/16 meeting with Rich Curran and Pastoral Staff: Dan O'Connor and Jeff Kacala, Discussion Leaders

The Pastoral Council met to discuss whether or not to engage the services of Rich Curran to assist The St. Mary Catholic Faith Community in its movement from a "Maintenance Church to a Missional Church." As stated in the Mission of the John Paul II Center for the New Evangelization, "As a people, we are called to encounter Jesus and grow as disciples through the sacramental life of the Church." In response to this directive, the end goal is formation of 'on fire' disciples who will authentically evangelize; reaching out to active, inactive, and unchurched peoples, with the hopes of bringing them into a close relationship with Jesus Christ. A lively discussion ensued, leading to an agreed upon realization that a new vision/direction is needed for St. Mary Catholic Faith Community at this time.

The Pastoral Council affirmed the decision of Fr. Brian Mason and the Pastoral Staff to enter into a 90 day contractual agreement with Rich Curran as facilitator of a Parish Study leading to a new Vision/Direction for St. Mary Catholic Faith Community. Based upon the results of Mr. Curran's research at the end of this three month period, additional services for implementation of said research may be requested.

The initial cost will be \$6,000.00 for Mr. Curran and his company's services. Utilizing state-of-the-art business practices, Rich will gather information and provide outcomes based on the data contained in evaluative tools to be utilized in his study. St. Mary Catholic Faith Community, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and the Roman Catholic Church in the United States will be scrutinized in order to provide the information needed to generate a visioning directive for St. Mary's.

Chairperson's Comment

Julie Behrman, Council Chair, asked for and received verbal affirmation of those present at the meeting to pursue engagement of the professional services of Mr. Rich Curran as facilitator of discernment leading to a new vision for St. Mary Catholic Faith Community.

There is a Parish Council Congress slated for February. Details to follow shortly.

"Everyday Stewardship – Inspiring and Practical Insights on Stewardship as a Way of Life". This workshop will be held Wednesday, February 8th, at 10-11:30 am and 6:30-8 pm at the Cousins Center. It is suggested Council members attend if at all possible.

"ReBoot Live" Wednesday, March 15th, 7-9 pm here at St. Mary's. Tickets are \$20.00. It is a wonderful presentation and a potentially great tool for Evangelization.

Liaison Reports

Parish Financial Status Report –Clem Budny, Parish Trustee

\$135, 000.00 was collected for our Sister Parish in Haiti.

\$111,000.00 was the profit gained after expenses from Festival 2016.

Our parish financial collection is down \$50,000.00 for 2016.

The parish debt is now at \$1.3 million. It was at \$2.4 million prior to the start of the debt reduction initiative.

The 2017-18 budget will be presented to the parish community in late January, 2017.

Social Concerns –Jim Maro

The committee has been looking at all ministry partners in reference to our existing Mission Statement.

Lissey's Place is no longer partnered with St. Mary's.

The Food Pantry had 28 new families serviced through the Red Bag initiative.

Our commitment to St. Vincent de Paul and Pathfinders continues to flourish.

More Vets and women are now being assisted at Repairers of the Breach as of 2016.

School Committee –Tim Reidy

An Open House at St. Mary Parish School will be held on January 29th, 2017 from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. The classroom doors will be open to the parishioners as well as any interested prospective families.

Pastoral Care – Fred Matestic

The Grief Group of 14 members will continue to meet as a small group informally outside of St. Mary's since the conclusion of its program at the parish. This is viewed as a positive outcome for Pastoral Care.

A new initiative – The Christmas Card Mailing – produced 453 cards personally written and sent to recipients identified by ministers of Pastoral Care.

The reporting/recording system utilized by the Outreach Ministries is still in need of updates.

Training is scheduled for new members.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is looking for new ways to utilize the shawls.

28 people attended the Pastoral Care Day. Susan McNeil of the Archdiocesan Office gave the Keynote presentation.

New Business

St. Mary's has recently placed an ad on the Archdiocesan website for a new Director of Music. A national search will also be initiated shortly.

Dan O'Connor will become the Director of Liturgy/Worship and Pastoral Care upon the hiring for the Director of Music position.

The meeting closed with prayer at 9 pm. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Czajka, Pastoral Council Secretary, January 11, 2017.