

**St. Mary Catholic Faith Community
Pastoral Council Meeting
October 22, 2018 - 6:30 pm**

Meeting Minutes: Revised 11-12-18

Present: Fr. Brian Mason, Clem Budny, Julie Behrman, Aaron Bieniek, Robert Gabor, Mary Beth Katorski, David Kreidler, Danielle Michaels, Jess Petre, Tim Reidy, Kyle Shimek, Gina Steyer, Fred Matestic

Guests: Dan Hansen, Daniel O'Connor, Jeff Kacala, Pam Lownik

Excused: Jim Schubilske, Tom Fredrickson

Meeting started at 6:33

Opening Prayer

- Mark 10:46-52

Review and revision of [Minutes from September](#)

Social Concerns overview *Pam Lownik*

- Pam shared her vision to embrace and live our core values in all areas of outreach.
- A handout was provided which outlines all areas of the Social Concerns Commission.
- The SCC is always evolving and considering which ministries to partner with in accordance with the parish core values.
- Each parish school class, PK-8, is deeply connected to a ministry partner and are actively involved. The 8th grade class goes to Repairers of the Breach 5 times a year with food cooked by the families.
- The agricultural initiative in Haiti is going very well, and the farmers are growing all of the ingredients necessary for the school lunch program to be self-sustaining.
- Pam's hope is that in 2 years when we celebrate our 20 year anniversary with Haiti, we will have reached the tipping point where Haiti has the tools they need to continue to grow with decreasing amounts of help from us.

Pastor's Report

- Fr. Brian's comments were all included in the Amazing Parish discussion.

Amazing Parish Conference

- All parishes of the diocese (about 190) were represented at the conference.
- Dan O'Connor talked about methodology versus mission and recognizing when we have a problem and our response to that.

- Jeff Kacala shared about the circle of influence. We all have people close to us that we can influence and begin in our efforts to evangelize. Working together as a team and being vulnerable to each other is key to changing our parish. The Eucharist and the other sacraments empower us to go out and evangelize.
- Dan Hansen contrasted the circle of influence with the circle of concern. Focusing on concerns that are within our circle of influence first, can eventually lead to broadening those circles. The idea of Amazing Parish is that more and more is asked of pastors, so surrounding the pastor with a leadership team is key to expanding the church's circle of influence.
 - The role of the leadership team is to help with operational pieces of running the parish so that Fr. Brian can focus on the things that he does best.
 - The goal is to meet weekly with the pastor and maintain a whole parish focus on top priorities.
- Pam Lownik shared that the leadership team works in addition to their staff responsibilities, and that Amazing Parish is a model of a commitment to a healthy organization. It will look different in each parish.
- Fr. Brian shared that he and the leadership team will each have responsibility for leading, communicating, and executing plans that are made. The goal is that the work we do here "outlives" those of us that are here now. It becomes who we are. Amazing Parish is providing ongoing coaching and support for both Fr. Brian and the leadership team.

Ministry/Commission Updates

- Julie shared [notes from the Pastoral Care Commission](#)

Chairperson Updates

- Jess shared information about the Google Drive folder that has been started for Pastoral Council.
- Jess mentioned the idea of doing a book study as a Pastoral Council. Not in the traditional sense, but more of a slow-read over time that creates some common conversation. Let him know if you have suggestions.

Prayer Partners

- We talked about how prayer time with our prayer partners is going.
- Fr. Brian mentioned that prayer is a process that will continue to evolve as we persevere. Prayer is the powerhouse that will help us move forward as a group and as a parish.
- Fr. Brian encouraged the group to continue praying and to pray in our own ways with each other.

Meeting concluded at 8:25

Next scheduled meeting - November 12, 2018