

**Blessed Trinity Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 28th, 2019 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

Present: Deb Hasler, John Russell, Jerry Knier, Steve Faust, Sabryn Bley, Suzy Schmidtke, Kris Raeder, Ruth Pedroni, Kitty L. Klich (Minutes) and Sandy Jordan (Staff)

Absent: Father Joe Dominic, Paula Inda, Jim O'Neill, Joe Stauber, and Jed Walleser

Opening Prayer: Led by Sabryn Bley

Commission Presentation - Stewardship: Tamara Cotter

The parishioners have received the new Talent Booklet. The booklet has been the commission's biggest challenge to date. Everyone present remarked that they thought the group had done an excellent job on the booklet. Tamara has received emails from parishioners that also say they really like new format.

In April, they will follow up with phone calls to parishioners that have not filled out their forms.

Stewardship Commission's first initiative was to start the Mentoring Program of which is being received very well by new members. They have had to make extra Welcome Bags. Tamara thanked the Finance Council for approving the monies needed to put a few extra items in the bags. In addition, they introduced the "Junior Greeter" Program, where the children hand out the bulletins at the end of Mass. This is being enjoyed by all.

Tamara said they are now looking for input on new ideas or projects that the commission could work on. They are also going to revisit the goals they had laid out when the commission was formed.

Tamara was presented with an idea, from a parishioner, for a Lenten activity. Lenten Prayer Partners: Baskets with slips of paper in them, asking for the parishioners' names and addresses, will be put at all of the doors of the church. Parishioners that wish to participate will be asked to fill out a slip and put it back in the basket. The following week those parishioners are asked to take a paper from the basket that has been filled out. The name of the person on the paper they draw is that parishioner's prayer partner during Lent. Around Easter, the parishioners are asked to send their secret prayer partner a little note saying they have been praying for them. This is an excellent way to help the whole congregation become closer to one another. Tamara took the idea to the next meeting for discussion with the other members.

Approval of Agenda (Deb Hasler):

Steve Faust motioned to approve the Agenda. Ruth Pedroni seconded it. Agenda approved.

Approval of January 24th, 2019 Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes (Deb Hasler):

Suzy Schmidtke motioned to approve the Minutes. Ruth Pedroni seconded it. Minutes approved.

Commission/Committee Reports - Highlights:

Evangelization & Formation:

Evangelization (Sandy Jordan for Paula Inda):

- Paula and Suzie Barrock met and discussed the issues of families leaving the parishes. They would like to do a membership drive targeting people that have left St. John Evangelist Parish and Blessed Trinity Parish recently, for whatever reason. Paula and Suzie would like to proceed during the Easter Holiday with Father Joe's permission. Their message to those former parishioners would be two-fold: First stating that they are missed; second that both parishes welcome all.
- The PC Members at the meeting discussed Paula and Suzie's proposal at great length. While they liked the spirit of evangelization this brings, there are also issues of safety, what type of outcome could result, and other questions such as are there other parishes in the area that have tried reaching out in this manner and was the outcome successful and effective.
- Sandy will email Paula the council's remarks and questions. At our next meeting, Paula can address those questions with Father Joe present to give his input regarding the project.

Religious Education (RE) and Youth & Young Adult Ministry (Ruth Pedroni):

- The RE Committee would like to reach out to the students after Confirmation is over. Perhaps a bag containing information about the Catholic Underground and other information that would keep them wanting to be active in the church.
- Ruth was asked to contact Lisa Gross to see if the Catholic Underground would accept confirmed students under the age of 18. Currently, members have to be 18 and over.
- This was tabled to bring up when Father Joe is present at the meeting as his permission is needed.
- Ruth asked if the College Care Packages could be replaced with something more helpful to the students like a card with a hand-written note. Ideas to include with the card were Mass schedules at parishes located close to their colleges, names of mentoring programs at their college, and a small gift card for approximately \$5 to \$10 for coffee or a meal. These cards would go out to the confirmed students the following year after they graduate.
- Ruth was asked to bring more information to the next meeting.
- RE is in the planning stages of an activity for the students to participate in, after Mass, on Cinco De Mayo, May 5th.

Catholic Life Center (Steve Faust):

- The tour of Meals on Wheels facility went very well and everyone enjoyed it.
- A newly-formed club, Memories in Print, had its first gathering.
- The Yarn Club will be donating 50 scarves to a shelter for the homeless.
- A Wine and Cheese Event will be held at St. John Evangelist in October. Date to be determined.

Human Concerns (Suzy Schmidtke):

- Human Concerns will be involved in the Forty Days for Life, walking in front of the Pro-Life Office near Aldi's in Sheboygan. Blessed Trinity is scheduled one day, March 27th, this year. There is a slip to sign up, for one-hour slots to walk that day, available in the Gathering Area.
- Lenten Almsgiving this year will be the Samaritans Hand/Sober House. The event planned a kick off for the event. It was cancelled due to weather. The \$2,000 collected for tickets to the event will be given directly to the Samaritans Hand/Sober House. Food ordered and prepared for the cancelled event was also donated.
- There will be a member from the Human Concerns Committee to speak about the Lenten Almsgiving opportunity at the Masses on March 9th and 10th.

Liturgy (Kitty Lynne Klich): No Report

Stewardship/Community Building (Deb Hasler):

- No Report. Tamara Cotters' presentation on the Stewardship Commission covered everything.

Building Committee (John Russell):

- There was a meeting with the Architects on February 5th.
- The discussion is still on-going about the different options.
- Next meeting on March 5th.

Joint Parish Activities (Deb Hasler):

- There has been no follow up or contact from St. John Evangelist regarding the joint photo directory. When Jim O'Neill returns, Deb will ask him if he has been contacted regarding it.

Archdiocese Planning/Deanery (Jim O'Neill): **Written Report**

- Parish Councils Conference was held at the Cousins Center on February 2nd.
- Due to time constraints, they were unable to complete the voting process on the Norms Proposals. According to archmil.org, voting will remain open until February 28th.
- Jim finished voting on line after the conference.
- By the March 28th Pastoral Council meeting, Jim should have the results.

Old Business:

Men of Christ Conference (John Russell):

- Presentations were made at the Masses at both Blessed Trinity and St. John Evangelist. They also have a team of people making phone calls to men parishioners to invite them.
- To date, 15 men have signed up to attend.

Panic Button For "What If" Situation (Suzy Schmidtke):

- Suzie checked with St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sheboygan Falls to see how they handled the situation. They use JSM Communications for their alarm system.
- The cost is \$80 per button. It is recommended that you have a two-button program in three different locations within the church installed. There is also an annual service fee of \$630.
- If buttons are pushed, it goes to a monitoring company in Oshkosh who then alerts the Sheboygan County Sheriffs Dept. and the City of Sheboygan Falls.
- A contact list in case of emergency would need to be provided to the monitoring company in Oshkosh. After they contact the police, they would call a number on the contact list to make sure there is an emergency.
- Needs to be investigated further.

2019 Edition of the Parish Spring Festival (Paula Inda): **Written Report**

- Paula checked with the Event Planning Committee and was advised that they would not be able to spearhead this event but they would be glad to help where needed.
- Paula is looking for advice for how to proceed and what is the goal of the event. Jim O'Neill and Ruth Pedroni will be furnishing her with information from last year's festival.
- It was decided that the event would coincide with the Blessed Trinity's Feast Day, June 16th, and take place after the Mass and Procession that day on the church grounds.

Youth Pastoral Council Representative Nomination/Discernment (Ruth Pedroni):

- On March 13th, Jerry Knier and Ruth Pedroni with Sabryn Bley and/or Jed Walleser will be visiting the 9th and 10th Grades.
- On March 17th, John O'Dell with Sabryn Bley and/or Jed Walleser will be speaking with the 11th Grade.
- Nominations close on Sunday, March 24.
- The committee will make the phone calls to the parents for permission for their child to be involved.
- Discernment will be on May 6th at 6:30 PM in the Catholic Life Center-Assembly Room. Terry Rotter will lead the Discernment.
- Both Sabryn and Jed are eligible to be nominated again for another term.
- New term begins July 1st.

Adult Pastoral Council Representative Nomination/Discernment (Deb Hasler):

- The three-year PC terms are up for Deb Hasler and Suzy Schmidtke. Steve Faust's one-year fill-in term is also up.
- Deb and Suzy are eligible to be nominated for a second term. Steve Faust is eligible to be nominated for his first term.
- There will also be an announcement in the bulletin.
- Nominations will close on Monday, March 18th.
- Deb Hasler, John Russell, Kitty Klich and Jerry Knier will be witnesses as to their experiences as a council member, at the Masses on March 9th, 10th, 16th and 17th. They will encourage the congregation to please nominate themselves or someone they think would be a good fit for the council.
- On March 19th, Sandy Jordan will create a spreadsheet with all of the nominees.
- Nominees will be called and invited to an informal question and answer gathering with the council on Thursday, April 11th at 6:30 PM in the Catholic Life Center-Assembly Room.
- If the nominees accept the nomination, they will go on to the Discernment on Thursday, May 9th at 6:30 PM in the Catholic Life Center-Assembly Room. Gail Kraig will be the facilitator at the Discernment.
- The newly-discerned council members will be invited to our May Pastoral Council Meeting and the Joint Pastoral Council Meeting in June with St. John Evangelist.
- New term begins July 1st.

Trustee Nominations/Election (Deb Hasler):

- Five weeks before the Trustee Election, nomination forms will be placed in the pews. There will be bulletin articles for three weeks and verbal announcements for two weeks.
- Kris Raeder and Amy O'Rourke will witness about being a Trustee during the May 4th and May 5th Masses.
- Nominations close on May 24th.
- Father Joe will announce the candidates at the Masses on June 1st and 2nd.
- The Trustee Election will be held during the Masses on June 8th and 9th.
- New term begins July 1st.

New Business: None

Adjournment: 8:30 PM

Important Dates

- March 2, 2019 – Pasta Dinner and Trivia Night
- Social Sunday/Bulletin Article
 - March 24, 2019, following 10:30 AM Mass – Finance Council – Kris Raeder/Joe Stauber/Jerry Knier
 - March 11, 2019, Bulletin article due to sandy@btsje.org
- Next Pastoral Council Meeting
 - Thursday, March 28, 2019, 6:30 PM, Catholic Life Center-Assembly Room
 - Opening Prayer – Jed Wallerer
 - Committee presentation – Religious Education – Lisa Gross
- Saturday, March 30, 2019 – Men of Christ Conference
- Saturday, April 6, 2019 – Human Concerns Summit – Cousins Center, Milwaukee
- Meet and Greet Schedule: Refer to monthly Lay Ministry Schedule (www.btsje.org > Blessed Trinity > Lay Ministries)