

OCTOBER 2019 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

Members Present: Father Frank, Julie Andrews, Clare Charzewski, Robbie Dills, Theresa Eze, Keith McGuiness, Scott Phillips, John Russell, and Colleen Sutton

Members Absent: Lawton Blandford, Robbie Doran, Jerry Gardner, Matt Gibbons, Maggie Helton, and Juan Saiz

1. Opening Prayer – Clare Charzewski

2. Minutes – Colleen Sutton

September 2019 Pastoral Council minutes were read, corrections made and approved by the council.

3. Goals of the parish for next 3-5 years follow up – All Participated

Again our number one discussion is answering, discussing and reviewing the 3 Questions purposed to the council.

- a. What are the realistic gifts this parish offers members, the diocese, and the community?
- b. What are realistic needs we have as a parish community?
- c. What pastoral gifts will best serve us in a new leader?

Father Frank presented the council with the parish staff's feedback to the 3 questions. That feedback is attached to the minutes. We compared and discussed our answers with the staff's ideas. The idea of having more of a Vision Mission Statement was presented. This Vision Mission Statement could include a Mission Statement too. It was agreed that we would like to review Robbie Dills and Robbie Doran's original submission of their ideas in reference to our 3 questions. The goal is to be able to pull from the council and the staff's feedback to discuss at November's meeting. Our focus must be on exact verbiage, reviewing prior minutes and combining everyone's feedback. It is important to be able to complete this task as soon as possible.

4. Annual Golf and BBQ Fundraiser – Scott Phillips

The BBQ Fundraiser was again a great success. We sold 1250 plates, with 650 plates delivered. The net profit is \$6,411.00.

The Queen's Classic Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, October 21st at Pine Island CC. Currently, there are 21 Golf Teams equaling 80 golfers that are signed up. Registration starts at 9:30am, tee time is 11:00am. Along with the parish staff, there are plenty of volunteers to help with the day. Golfers will be served a box lunch. Some of the raffle items are a 32" Smart TV, Panther tickets, Hornet tickets, specialty items, gift cards and free rounds of golf.

5. Mental Health Wellness Program Information – Julie Andrews & Robbie Doran

Julie and Robbie are still working on gathering resource material. Monarch, a company that specializes in behavioral services, can provide speakers on various topics related to this program. St. Gabriel's Catholic Church in Charlotte, is currently offering 8 different programs. Their programs are promoted to the school and the community. Julie and Robbie will present additional resource materials at a later council meeting.

6. St. Benedicts and the churches gathering space and schedule – Father Frank

Currently, with our limited gathering spaces for our various groups, we have run out of space for programs both in house and the outside groups that meet here. The day schedule is okay, but it's the night schedule where we have a problem. Unfortunately, with limited space, we will have to sadly discontinue providing meeting space for some of our outside groups. A decision has not been made at this point on which outside group will have to find a new meeting space. We will try to assist them in finding a new gathering space.

7. New Church Dedication Celebration – Father Frank

We have 2 Committees: Liturgy and Reception. The Liturgy will be headed up by Tom Calabro and the Reception by Mary Jo Stiles. The theme is Honor Our Heritage and Culture.

The Liturgy will be presented in multilingual parts, which represent the different nationalities of our parish community. Music will be handled by Chrissy Glisson. The food for the reception will be heavy hor d'oeuvres. It will be provided by both the various cultures that make up our parish and caterers. The dedication is scheduled for Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 3:00pm and will be close to 3 hours long.

Invitations will be mailed out in January to every diocesan priest, the monks, the Sisters of Mercy, former pastors and parish members.

That weekend we will have the regular 5:00pm and 7:00pm Saturday Masses and 1 Mass on Sunday morning TBA.

The weekend before the dedication, we will have a Liturgical Celebration at all Masses with the blessing and thank you to our current church and to say “Goodbye”!

8. Father Franks Good News – Father Frank

- Fundraiser: The church will be selling hand crafted wooden pens. These pens will be made from the same wood used to make our new church front doors, Northern Appalachian Long Leaf Pine. Father had samples that he passed around. They are being donated by one of our parishioners. Therefore, the profit from the sale of these pens will go back into the church.
- A local artist will be doing charcoal and pencil prints of both the current and the new church. These will also be for sale to parish members.
- World Youth Day in July of 2022 is scheduled to be held in Lisbon, Portugal. It is in the works to be able to send some of our youth to this event.
- We are planning the Thanksgiving Dinner at the church. Currently the goal is to be able to serve at least 425 meals, based on prior experience.
- We will be having a Parish Retreat called “Rebuilding My Church!” This event will replace our Small Group Sessions for Advent. On December 14th and 15th, we will have Father Ross Chamberland preach at all Masses. Then we will have 2 evening sessions with Father Chamberland on Sunday evening the 15th and Monday evening the 16th at 7:15 in the church. Father Chamberland is VP of Student Affairs at St. Bonaventure University, Assistant Professor at Christ the King Seminary and a member of the Circus and Traveling Ministry. Refreshments will be available.
- We will be having our Small Group Lenten sessions. It will be titled “Hellos and Goodbyes”.
- Our Italian brothers and sisters have a beautiful tradition; Bambinelli Sunday, Blessing the Christ Child. The tradition is held on the 3Rd Sunday of Advent and it helps children and young people to prepare for Jesus. You bring the Christ Child from your Nativity scene and the Priest blesses it during the Mass. This year our parish will be celebrating this tradition.
- We have 21 RCIA Candidates.
- We have 54 children that will be receiving their First Reconciliation and First Eucharistic Sacraments this liturgical year.
- We have 20 Candidates for Confirmation.
- The Sisters of Mercy, that live in house, took up a collection for our new church building fund. They donated \$260.00

- We will have a Book of Honor that will list donations made to our new church building fund. Thank you notes will be mailed to those donors.
- Lastly, just a bit of bad news. Our original electrical plans for our new church have been changed. It was thought that we would not have to have a new transformer. Due to issues not known, we will now have to have a new transformer and have it tied in. This cost will be around an extra \$8,000.00. Also, the current church and office will have to do without power the week of October 28th for the transition.

9. Roundtable discussion – Clare Charzewski

Clare presented us with a message from Marilyn Warmington, who heads our Rosary Making Ministry. Marilyn wanted us to know that the Rosary Ministry will be selling rosaries 2 weekends in November. Our Rosary Ministry currently makes over a 1,000 rosaries a year. The rosaries are sent to about 50 churches, 700 went to our Haitian brothers and sisters in Haiti, to our Faith Formation students, our RCIA candidates and around 200 to the Circus Ministry. Please support them during their sale.

10. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 21st, 2019.

11. Closing prayer – Scott Phillips

ATTACHMENT: Queen of The Apostles Staff Feedback

We revisited the three questions that Father had previously presented to the Pastoral Council and staff.

Question 1: What are the realistic gifts this parish offers members, the diocese and the community?

Jayne shared that our representatives at the Diocesan PCPL regional meetings are a strong voice, sharing ideas from our programs that are being implemented in other parishes. This includes our Small Group Programs and VBS practices. Other parishes are following our model of separating Middle School Formation and pairing it with the Youth Ministry evening program instead of the Sunday morning Elementary Program.

Chrissy also reported that she has been sharing with St. Michael's the templates for our Funeral Programs and how we accomplish that piece of our ministry.

As stated at the previous staff meeting, we have a strong Finance Council and fiscally responsible staff. We are an actively engaged community involved in 70+ ministries within the parish and community and have parishioners who give considerable time and talent to agencies in the community.

We are committed to creativity in program development and execution operating with the motto "Be in Motion Not in Maintenance."

We work to keep the family spirit and welcoming atmosphere alive and strong in our parish.

We are committed to the development and empowerment of the lay ministry and lay leadership.

Staff opinion of the Pastoral Council answers is that the first answer needs reshaping to be more specific.

Question 2: What are realistic needs we have a parish community?

We need a more highly developed ecumenical outreach. Several of the Belmont vehicles that helped to foster this are no longer functional such as the Ecumenical Council and Unity Day.

While the parish does make efforts to support life issues, we need a volunteer coordinator for both Respect Life and Justice and Peace. While we cooperate with the Sisters of Mercy Justice and Peace efforts, we need a parish coordinator for this.

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Questions 3: What pastoral gifts will best serve us in a new leader?

As mentioned at the previous meeting, specific shepherding skills that include humility and humor would be appreciated in our new leader. We hope for someone to work with existing ministries and to promote those ministries in our parish and community.

Father will be passing on our answers at Pastoral Council and may come back again to us for more ideas. If you think of something else, bring it to him.