

**St. Joan of Arc
Pastoral Council Meeting
September 24, 2013**

In Attendance: Beth Klahre, Andrea Neves, Martha Rupert, Denise Grudi, Brian Deiling, Pete Bowman, John Phillippy, Tom DeAngelis, Jamieson Gill, Jacqueline Abel, Connie Egan, Sister Eileen, Dr. Mortel, Father Rothan, Father Wayne

Absent: Pat Mooney, Susan Petrina

Father Rothan opened the meeting with the Gospel of St. Luke 8.

The April meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no changes.

Deacon Mortel is celebrating his 42nd anniversary today. The Mooneys are celebrating their 30th year wedding anniversary today. Congratulations to all.

Father Rothan has two candidates who are interested in replacing John Curley. Expected decision is by December.

The Pastoral Council needs a replacement for Susan Suzi. Council members are requested to submit names to Pat or John. Father has two nominations for the Faith Formation and Evangelization Commission.

Stewardship and Communications Update

Jackie Abel, Director of Stewardship and Development, provided an update on the new parish and school web sites. Online giving as well as other improvements is still to come.

Annual reports will be available at back of church and not mailed. We need volunteers to hand them out after Mass.

Jackie is also working on a parish database. She will also facilitate training of those who will use the database.

Social media is working! Facebook and the monthly newsletter are both a huge success. 367 people signed up as of today. This year there were 0% No-Show Volunteers to the Parish festival. This is credited to the use of website reminders. Historically, there has been 30% No-Shows. Tracking of social media shows that Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter are the most popular tools. We are using these tools to communicate events like the upcoming Rosary Rally. This is supplemental to the bulletin, not a replacement. Bulletins will contain less information as more people are going on line to get their information.

We purchased a new camera which has improved the recording (sound) of Mass and homilies. Eventually parishioners will be able to subscribe to the channel. Access will still be available through Youtube.

Commission Updates

Pastoral Care and Outreach

Pastoral Care and Outreach finalized its mission statement and objectives. The group is moving forward with ministry subgroups, but working closely together. Two projects are currently underway for St. Vincent De Paul requiring labor/ construction.

Fr. Beiting's projects in Kentucky require volunteers to schedule in advance. The insight from this is that these projects have enough volunteers and we can encourage volunteers to choose other projects.

Now that the physical modifications to church are completed, the commission will develop communications/awareness activity to inform on what's available (handicap bathroom, large print missals, hearing assistance devices, etc.) Focus will be on how to help people use the new facilities. The handicap confessional will always have a priest available before Saturday evening Mass.

A generous donor provisioned cushions for the front and side pews to be reserved for those with limited ability. Reserved signs will be added to these pews.

The Commission will work on additional ways to involve special needs/handicapped individuals in the parish.

Percent responses to 2009 Needs Survey:

- 44% - Need for restroom located on main level of church
- 33% - Need for assistance upon entering church
- 18% - Religious Education for students with disabilities
- 16% - Accessibility to church and services

These results should be shared with the parish.

Last year, Father Rothan held a workshop for ushers. A new Ministers of Hospitality group would expand the charter of the ushers as they would be assigned to each entrance to provide assistance to those who need it upon entering Mass. The goal is to assign ministers to every Mass with a total of 7 per Mass.

This is "Year 3" for the current ushers. Per the new guideline, these ushers will be required to take one year off. Fr. Rothan will have a training session by Mass for new Ministers of Hospitality.

Stewardship

The commission plans to pick a weekend and collect email addresses after Masses on a voluntary basis. A Commission meeting is planned for a time between now and the next Parish Council meeting to update the Stewardship and Development plan for 2014.

No other commission updates were provided.

2014 Goals

Community and Outreach will be the focus for 2014.

1. The Liturgy and Worship Commission will be responsible for Ministers of Hospitality program
2. The Pastoral Care and Outreach Commission will be responsible for continued involvement of individuals with disabilities with the liturgy.
3. The Pastoral Care and Outreach Commission will be responsible to investigate handicap spaces or Valet Parking (behind St. Lucy's for 7 cars)

Upcoming Parish Events

1. Rosary Crusade
2. Connie Egan will go through calendar year and identify the point person(s) responsible for every event.
3. Denise Grudi and Martha Rupert will organize the Adult Education program during Advent. The Advent program will include prayer and pasta and a 30 minute talk in the school. The topic for the discussions will be the Book of Revelation. Responsibilities for the group sponsoring each week's event need to be defined. Soup and Stations will be held on Friday evenings during Lent. Three of six Fridays have confirmed volunteers with assignments.

Other Topics

Neighborhood Christian Communities (NCCs): It seems that only a few neighborhoods are currently active. Most NCCs have evolved into a summer Mass group only. We discussed the successes and struggles of the existing NCCs. The Parish is very open and willing to support groups, existing and new. Father Wayne suggested that if anyone wants to form a group, they should meet with him to get input/direction and then let it grow. Successful examples include Jamie's indoor soccer program and the bi-monthly women's rosary group. A "newly married couples" group could be formed in this manner. The only restriction is that children must be accompanied by their parents. Tom will talk to Jackie about getting a communication out to the Parish community.

Closing Prayer was offered by Father Wayne.

Next Meeting: November 26, 2013