

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2018

7:40 pm

Parish Library C 103

	<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
1.	Prayer	Walter Gawlak
2.	Formation	Sean Moynihan
3.	Review of Minutes	

No changes; moved to approved, seconded

4.	Finance	Karen Fleming (Chair) for Jeff (VChair) Karen Asta for Mark Gurley
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- Budget points: \$2.9 million, a slight increase over last year
- Collections have increased slightly, but other large donations have been received
- The staff has budgeted the individual departments
- There will be a budget review in January 2019
- There has been a slight decrease in collections during the last few months
- Attendance is lower than ever
- An offertory campaign is in the planning stages
- Other income is one-time gifts: this has been the saving grace to the budget, but is hard to predict/forecast.
- Cash reserves are slightly less than two months. $\frac{3}{4}$ of a month better than last year, but still short of the preferred three months minimum
- Capital Improvement: \$9K a month
- Plans: top three: sewer ejection pumps, boilers, air conditioning approved
- Additional bathroom plan has been placed on delay until other critical items have been taken care of and enough reserves (4.5M) built

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- Faith Direct seems to be a positive with both a bump in the number of contributors and the consistency of said contributions. It would be great to have 150 new contributors, with 90 new contributors at this time. It may have to be mention again.
- Faith Direct envelopes for church collections to emphasize giving to the young ones?
- Make it easier to find the church code number in the ads.
- Looking at other options/proposals for a comparison-shopping on the LED Project.
- Base salaries are planned to increase by 2.5%. Is there any way to raise this?
- Father Paul's salary is being held in case an associate priest is assigned.
- PTPO gift money will be entered but it is still being organized and allocated. The auction is still not yet closed out.
- Tithing allocations
 - College Moms: backpacks for freshmen in college
 - Shepherd Center: Senior center
 - DC Ignition: homeless shelter
 - Marian home: group home

Father Pat and Karen
Asta for Darcie
Girmus

5. School Update

- 90K profit from auction; some funds may still be coming in
- Graduation went well
- Field day went well
- Enrollment should be about the same net year (404); cap is 400 bodies and preschool is ½ day, the total number may be 420 (but only 400 at any one time)
- Income will have a little drop.

6. PTPO Update

Jim Hathaway

- Skipped

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7. Commission Reports: (Major Highlights)

- **Community Service** Helen Cascio
 - ESL finished for the year
 - Truck to WV had a flat tire but still went through
 - Emergency soup needed for Memorial Day FACETS delivery
 - Lunch shaming – no more stamping hands

- **Religious Education** Walter Gawlak
 - Adult Faith will continue in fall
 - Baptisms to continue
 - Commission chairs to meet with those joining the church as a pep talk.
 - Question boxes in classes for scary questions or questions on which they would prefer to remain anonymous. One such subject is how to talk to vocal atheists.
 - Need catechists for next year!

- **Community Growth** Kelly for Cris Revaz
 - Cris is leaving position

- **Worship** Bob Lemieux
 - Nine new Eucharistic ministers
 - Eighteen Eucharistic ministers are going onto sabbatical
 - Sound system: suggesting an acoustician, as system is operational. Some problems with acoustics of inherit with the design of the building, but other steps, such as better voice training for some lectors, may help.
 - Team of four will be replacing Paul Lyons in candle/follower cleaning and maintenance

- **Youth** Jim Barrett
 - Work camp coming up! Money in, special training in, all raring to go.
 - Catholic Life Communities (Small community of faith for youngsters)

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- Sports
- Prayer
- Discussions
- Increases during summer
- Guys having a great day when going to Dairy Queen
- Girls program is successful, even if small. Many friendships continue past college.

8. Old Business:

- Facilities Committee
 - Modesto Campos (Facilities Manager) contacted. He sees this group as an asset when he is working on specific jobs and when is working on bids.
 - The draft charter has good results
 - The Finance committee in favor
 - The Worship committee in favor
 - It will be independent as a Board where resume submitted, approved, and accepted. Will have five tops.
 - Awaiting Ft Pat's approval

9. New Business

- Father Paul's Departure
 - Plan for party mentioned this weekend
 - June 24th after the 10:00 and 11:45 light reception

10. Eyes and Ears

Council

- Discussion on attendance
 - Declining over time. Why are there so few young families?
 - St John Neumann has a large toy room
 - They have a once a month instead of a drop off on Tuesday
- Who attends the 5:30 Mass? No "community sense" for them as they do not have Donut Sunday or similar events. More spaghetti dinners or other activities are a possibility, but problems with clean up, staffing, and other issues. Possibly a dining for dollars deal? Potluck

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on an every other month? Move movie night to Saturday night?

Board games and snacks!

- New associate for Father Pat? Father Tuck is happily ready to retire, so this rumor is not probable.

11. Pastoral Issues / Status / Updates

Father Pat

- Possibilities of training grounds, as two parishes have small congregations.
- Haymarket area is growing rapidly.
- With Eric leaving, question of whether or not two full time youth ministers are necessary. Has one become an administrator?
- Auction every year: not opposed, but getting staff to work the amount of effort is amazingly large. Reality is different than theory. Groundswell is required.
- Father Scalia says no replacement. Three priests ordained for ten positions. However, Father Greg Muturi (Dominican; in Kenya and is having their chapter in US. Father Steven LaMala (15 years ordained) will be staying with us for a month. Exact duties to be determined: Dominican duties, fund raising, general assistance.
- Need contribution counters Monday morning 8:45=10:00.
- Fall Festival is September 30 (tentative). Need ticket takers etc. to back up Kelly Boyle.

12. Closing Prayer

Meeting Ends at 9:07.

Council Summer Social

Next Meeting: September 20, 2018

Have a great
summer!

Community Service Report

Religious Education Report

Adult Faith Formation – June 2018

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RCIA:

1. **Mystagogy:** The Commission chairs made presentations to the Neophytes on Wednesday, June 13. Jean will be helping the new Catholics find a small group or ministry to participate in this Summer.
2. **Inquiry:** We have three families that meet Sunday mornings for Inquiry. We have had nine sessions so far. We have two field trips scheduled for spiritual enrichment on July 1 and August 5. Adult Inquiry will begin soon on Wednesday nights. Starting in October there will be Dismissal at both the 8:15am and 10:00 am Masses.

Baptisms: Deacon John is scheduled to Baptize seven children on June 17. There are currently Baptisms scheduled on July 14/15 at all but the 8:15 am Mass.

Adult Faith Formation: We will have an Information Session on August 26 to promote Adult Faith Formation opportunities. One opportunity will be for the study of The Gospel of John and the Johannine Letters using Little Rock Scripture Study materials in the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 and will be offered at three different days/times. We also plan to offer *The Mystery of God: Who God is and Why He Matters* study by Bishop Barron this Summer and in the Spring.

DRE Retreat: Ana Lisa did a great job organizing and executing the Diocesan DRE retreat last week at the San Damiano Spiritual Life Center in White Post, VA. There were about 20 DREs present. Presentations on Missionary Discipleship were given by Soren Johnson and John Knudson from the Bishop's Office. Fr. Noah Morrey from All Saints also gave a presentation.

Religious Education Report – June 2018

Religious Education Classes / Recruitment

Ana Lisa is recruiting Catechists and Assistant Catechists for grades:

Sunday 1- 5

Monday K, 3 and 4

Wednesday 1 - 6

Vacation Bible School

We have 13 adult volunteers. 30 youth volunteers and about 40+ participants.

DRE Retreat

Local DRE's were on Retreat from June 5-7. Key take-aways:

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Father Morey spoke about giving your personal testimony and how to quickly get to why Jesus is important to you in 3 minutes.

John Knutsen (Diocese of Arlington) spoke on the new forms of Atheism. Atheists target people who do not know their faith. John gave DRE's some resources to help counter this problem.

The Mystery of God and Why He Matters

This year a few Catechists placed a question box in class to solicit concerns that students were uncomfortable asking in class. One issue recurring question that Catechists had difficulty addressing adequately concerned Atheism. Ana Lisa will be presenting a summer program on Bishop Barron's Mystery of God and Why He Matters to help Catechists address this question. She is surveying the group to determine what times would work best for people.

Community Growth Report

June 2018 Community Growth Activities Report (mid May – mid June '18)

Always Our Children: continue to meet every other month except in July and August. Meetings are every 2nd Monday evening of the Odd months.

Bakers for Funerals: Bakers for funerals had 2 funeral receptions to bake for in May, none so far in June.

Care for Our Common Home Ministry (CFOCH): 1. The co-chairs will meet with office manager Crystal Sheehan to discuss the waste management procedures at parish activities and at the school in the hope that we can increase recycling options in both places. 2. On June 10, the co-chairs attended the annual meeting and showcase sponsored by the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, which represents 70 congregations in the Northern Virginia area. We staffed a table with information about CCH activities, highlighting the Bikes for the World project; the ecumenical prayer service during the Season of Creation; information about the two recent talks: "Beyond the Milky Way" and "Zero Waste Living"; the switch from foam cups to paper cups and plastic re-usable tumblers at parish functions.

Christians in Commerce: The NoVA Men's Chapter of CIC continues to meet every Wednesday in the Choir Room at 0645 (Fellowship & Vittles) followed Prayer, Praise Teaching & Sharing from 7-8 am.

Cursillo: Meets every Tuesday 12:30-1:30 in Jean Lupinacci's office for those who have already made a weekend. <http://www.arlingtoncursillo.org>

Evangelization Committee: A recommendation on how to proceed with this new Committee has been proposed and sent to Fr. Pat for his approval. Deacon John will be getting with Fr. Pat on this soon.

Funeral Receptions: there have been 2 funeral receptions since the last Pastoral Council meeting and another one on the horizon on June 30th.

Knights of Columbus: the Knights of Columbus is responsible for delivering all of the food collected, at St. Mark in the Matthew 25 program, and will deliver to the St. Lucy Warehouse in Manassas throughout the month of June.

Le Cercle Francais: Continues to meet every Tuesday from 10 am -12 and converse en Francais.

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Movie Night: An Adult only event is set for this Friday, June 15th starting at 7pm with a wine and cheese social, followed by the movie, "I Can Only Imagine".

Newcomers Committee: The Newcomers Committee co-sponsored June Donut Sunday with the Pro-Life Group. The event was well attended and successful. We donated the left over donuts to the Lamb Center, Fairfax City, VA.

Pastoral Care Team (PACT): The most recent newly commissioned EMHC's were welcomed by Bill Grossman and given some preliminary instructions on visiting the homebound through the PACT ministry.

Peace and Justice Committee: will be meeting over the summer to plan Fall events

Prayer Shawl Ministry: The shawl ministry donated 42 baby blankets for the St Mark Baby Shower We continue to meet during the summer. We would welcome new members to our afternoon and evening groups. Both held on the second Tuesday of each month.

Praying College Moms: will be helping with the College Night event at St. Mark, next week, on June 20th.

Pro-Life Committee: The Pro-Life Committee held the Baby Shower to collect items for local pregnancy centers. We collected \$1113 plus many large items such as car seats. We didn't collect as many clothes as previous years. The Baby Shower was not as well attended as last year. The committee believes it is due to conflict with another charity event occurring at the same time.

Remembrance Ministry: The Remembrance Ministry continues in its work to send cards and notes to those who have lost loved ones. We are also continuing to work with Deacon John to expand opportunities for expanding our services to those who are grieving.

Senior Ministry (M&Ms): The M&Ms will finish out their year with a trip on The Spirit of Washington by sailing down the Potomac, enjoying a buffet lunch and listening to their DJ. St. Mark was able to "foot the bill" for a bus to take us down to the Wharf, so we didn't have to drive and carpool. Joe Kolasch usually hosts the M&Ms at his home for an end of the season barbeque where he supplies, the drinks and meats and we bring appetizers, sides and desserts. Since Joe will be having a procedure on the 14th of June, we await his recovery before descending on him. so hopefully before the end of summer, we will be enjoying ourselves at Joe's Place! We take the summer off and return to our usual after Mass coffees on September 5th. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at St. Mark Activity Center and take an excursion on another week. We will begin our outings by taking the Duck Tour of DC the 25th of September.

Small Communities of Faith: No report received.

Welcome and Information Desk: all is well with the information desk with volunteers and the material placed on top of the desk.

Worship Report

Worship Commission Report – June 2018

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC): Father Pat installed eight EMHCs this weekend, each of whom received training from the Diocese earlier this spring and specific St. Mark's training this weekend. Unfortunately, this does not balance out the nineteen EMHCs

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that are now on sabbatical. The 5:30 and 8:15 teams are complete with a minimum of twelve EMHCs and the 10:00 and 1145 teams are both short two and five EMHCs, respectively. Despite the shortage, substitutes usually fill in the gaps.

Sound System: Rather than purchase a new sound system, the Worship Commission recommends an acoustician be hired to assess the acoustics of the church and provide recommendations. In an effort to address the building's sound limitations, Nancy Novelly and Andrea Kramer volunteered to assist readers to best utilize the system to get the most of their personal speaking characteristics. While this effort will not specifically address the acoustics it will help readers effectively communicate with the congregation; the acoustical evaluation should address the root cause.

Liturgical Arts Committee: A Candle Team of four Parishioners has been established to maintain the look and effectiveness of the candles. Once a week a team member will shave the candles, if necessary, and clean the followers, candles and candle sticks using a well-defined process. Previously, Paul Lyons maintained the candles but is unable to continue the work.

Youth Report

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