

SS Peter and Paul Pastoral Council - Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2023

Attendees: Rev. Ted Jost, Deacon Carl Koester, Eileen Lyon, Joe Burke, Robert Couth, Sharon Keller, Warren Ristine, Katherine Nicaise-Steffen, Irene Stranz, Judy Shelley, Kevin Morgan, Mary Flanagan, Holly Stuart, Greg Jones, Joan Haag, Deacon Roy Dibb, Leslie Brooks

Excused: Rev. Jim Cuipek, Deacon Robb Ciezki, Dick Blake, Racael Rizzo, Karin Dusza, Lauren (Ren) Gibson, Amanda Przyklek, Jenifer Golinski, Deacon Dennis Conroy, Don Wach, Holly Stuart, Lori Baker, Andy Straub

Unexcused: None

The meeting was held in the Rectory and was called to order by President Warren Ristine at 6:59 PM. Opening Prayer by Kevin Morgan and a moment of meditation with a song. "O Holy Night". The mission statement was read by all.

Motion to approve the amended November 2023 meeting minutes by Kathy and second by Kevin unanimously approved.

Announcements

Warren announced that each sub-committee will need to delegate 1 person to serve on the Selection Committee.

Irene announced she was approached by Margaret Alexander for help in watering the poinsettias on the Tuesday after Christmas and New Year's Day. Margaret shared with Irene that the individuals who helped prior with this task did it after the 7 am Mass we used to have during the week. Now that the Mass is at 9 the normal volunteers are not available. Irene will water on December 26 and Judy and Kathy will water on January 2. Kathy shared that water may be difficult for some due to physical limitations. The poinsettias located in the Saint Francis Chapel and the church will be watered. Irene will notify Margaret that volunteers were obtained.

Old Business

Many of the Family Pillars are making progress. The Administration Pillar has come up with the name "The External Flame Catholic Community". They are collaborating on developing a staff handbook, family web page, and family bulletin. Don Wach from SSPP will be retiring as our business manager in March.

3 enrichment opportunities are being offered; conference City Mission on January 23, Renewal Conference on March 22, and Life in the Eucharist on January 6. Information flyers were submitted in the reports to council members.

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The Liturgy Family pillar met and so far we are keeping our Masses. However, one Mass in our family must be eliminated per Diocese. Counts will continue and the Pillar will meet again on May 16 after data is collected which Mass will be eliminated.

Christmas all the priests will not rotate. Father Ted will be saying all the Masses at SSPP.

Spiritual will be getting trained on Life in the Eucharist. Joe shared that the Pillar is working on a training day followed by a picnic after the last training.

Forming Disciples is looking at material as a family for the faith formation classes. Due to financial constraints, the current materials will be used to save money.

Outreach/ In-reach family Pillar is working on collaborating with other ministries within the family such as St Vincent DePaul and Altay and Rosary. Pillar is looking at sharing resources and promoting groups that are unique within the family such as grief ministry. The pillar working on collaborating as a family either quarterly or twice a year,

No minutes were reported from the stewardship Pillar.

Warren discussed the coffee social will be on January 14. The goal was to have the social after 9:30 Mass when the children's WORD is being offered. The conflict is limited space with Faith Formation. A question was raised why can't both events coincide? Executive team to explore the logistics with Father Ted. The goal is for children to be part of the social with their family encouraging participation and child/family involvement. Father Ted expressed the goal is to be visibly welcoming.

Joe suggested weekend socials be rotated with various ministries at different times

Eileen voiced with socials that a safe area with safe seating is needed especially for the elderly parishioners. With socials, the location needs to be taken into consideration and safety as well, taking into consideration the layout of the geography.

Judy shared the concern when socials are in the gym with the gym floor is slick and we have already had fall incidents with elderly Parishioners

Currently, the website site is being updated by Don, There is a request within the Parish for help with the web.

Leslie stated that the school used to help with the web updates but now the Quilted Squirrel manages the website

Subcommittees discipleship reported we have 6 new families/parishioners this month.

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Ministry support working on the Eucharist Display Feb 28-March 20 in the hallway, St Francis Chapel, and back of the Church. Working on announcements

Kevin will ask the organization how security needs to be and what other Parishes have done in the past, The display will be available when the Church is open.

Warren raised the question of where to turn on the lights in the Church has been dark at times. Father Ted explained there are controls in the Sacristy.

Kathy asked how families get notified by the ushers to take up the gifts for their families when intended. Irene explained it has been if the Mass is for a family the individual/family needs to approach the ushers early to make arrangements to bring up the gifts at the offertory so the ushers can honor their request.

Irene will write up a blurb for the bulletin to remind Parishioners of the process

No concerns over standing reports

Good of the Parish

It was reminded by Father Ted that the ciborium with the Eucharist should be only handled by the Eucharist ministers.

Each year Pastoral Council takes a spiritual moment each year through a Special Presentation or a reflection of prayer. This year Eileen Lyons was asked to present how spirituality was maintained in the concentration camps.

“The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it” John 8:12

Concentration camps represented the deepest darkness

Freedom of the will can't be taken away. If caught showing your faith; punishment would result and many times death

Prisoners sacrificed their food which was not much to create a bread rosary. The prisoners were willing to sacrifice to feed the soul

Majdanek. a 15-decade Rosary; symbolizing the connection of bread to the body of Christ

Living Rosary offers a gift of prayer, each person prays a decade of the Rosary. The Gusen Rosary contained cubes made of stone (granite) then wood, then Plexiglas (what airman shot done). These cubes

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often contained ashes from the incinerator remains of the concentration camp victims. It was a way the prisoners honored and respected their loved ones and friends lost in the camps.

Ravenbruck a women/children's camp a nativity was created out of paper and hidden from the guards

In the Italian prison, a nativity with a guard was shown with his arms down in the presence of Christ as a sign of peace

“Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey” Pope Francis

Eileen handed out a card with a small lantern as a reflection of our discussion

Adjournment and closing prayer by all with a Hail Mary to conclude the evening. at 7:00

Next Pastoral Council meeting **January 8**, 7 PM at the Parish Meeting Room

Opening Prayer - Robert Couth

Respectfully Submitted,

Irene Stranz

Pastoral Council Secretary