



MINUTES

October 1, 2018 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

7:00-9:00 PM **Parish Hall**

prepared by Tim Norris, Jack Dever and Susan Churchill

**We, Blessed Sacrament Parish are a Christ-Centered Community; Committed to Worship the Father;
Committed to Respond to the Spirit's Gifts; Committed to Loving Service to All God's People.**

Attendance

Brennan, Rick*	Holz, Ken	Whitmyer, Reagan
Churchill, Susan	Jenkins, Joe*	Wilson, Tiffany
Crabtree, Matt	Jennings, Laura	
Dever, Ann	Lucas, Bob	
Dever, Jack	Maramba, Philip	
Dever, John	McLane, Tom	ex-officio members
Frye, Tim	Norris, Tim	Finnell, John
Gianola, John	O'Neill Colleen	Haas, Jeanne
Green, Travis*	Ponciano, Jocelyn	Haas, Mark
Gresham, Joe	Scalise, Danny	Hanna, John
Hayes, Matt	Sylvester, Bob	Zellers, Natalie
		*notified of absence

Secretarial Assistants: Tim Norris and Jack Dever

OPENING PRAYER: Father John

PRAYER FOR A NEW BISHOP FOR THE DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

Composed by Msgr. Frederick P. Annie, our Vicar General

God of the Centuries, you have always guided your people by raising up leaders among us and anointing them for mission, ministry and service. Your Son called his Apostles to heal the brokenhearted and to become the first stewards and preachers of the Gospel. Hear our prayers today and through your Holy Spirit send us a Bishop, to nourish us with the word and sacrament, to set a paschal banquet of charity among these West Virginia hills, to call us to mercy and justice and to kindly serve all who seek your face. We pray through Christ our Lord.

Amen

KUDOS:

- for the continuation of the First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during which prayers are offered, prayers are answered, hearts are softened, new paths appear, the glory of the Lord is revealed and people find their right place in their worlds
- for all who conceived of, organized, prepared for and participated in the recent concert featuring John Michael Talbot
- for all who provided a free-will offering at the JMT concert (approximately \$3000 raised—this money went to Manna Meal which is experiencing a drastic shortage in funds)
- for the high quality classes on CPR and using the AED being offered our parishioners
- for the Dismas Club volunteers who provide a fantastic array of sweet treats and popcorn for viewing our parish movies
- for the movies we have had shown at our parish; I have been there for each one and have been amazed with the things I lived through but never knew about and I like talking about the movies
- for the folks who came up with the new way of producing a Parish Pictorial Directory
- for the informative letter from Archbishop William Lori to help us understand the process he will follow for accomplishing his work and the investigation of our former bishop during the interregnum in our diocese
- for the Vocation Committee's efforts to engage us in praying for vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate and religious life through their regular inter-mass meetings, weekly Chalice Ministry, the bulletin blurbs, the intercessory prayers at mass and the occasional Holy Hour offered for prayers and meditations on vocations
- for the Parish Picnic at church which turned out to be almost more fun than having it at the park; it seemed like I saw and talked to more people than I ever have before
- for the openness of our church staff to allow our building to be used by a broad range of nonprofit groups from the community at large (Natalie is preparing a list for us.)
- for Carolyn Frye (and the transportation ministry drivers) who I can always count on for help
- for the talk given by Mark Haas on the catechism of *The Lord of the Rings* and for his making good use of free technology available to us and live streaming it on FaceBook for those unable to attend to see as well
- Father John is Awesome and for his being a great guy. Wooooohooooooooooooooooooooo!!

OLD & NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Parish Committee Updates and Any New Steps/Suggestions

a. Safety Awareness Committee-

Although Joe Jenkins is taking a leave from some activities he will continue with this committee and will make arrangements for workshops

b. Addition Task Force--Bob Sylvester, Reagan Whitmyer

Reagan had prepared an outline for proceeding with some planning. (see email thread which followed the meeting)

Father John ok'd the development of a separate survey of the parishioners. (Bob and Reagan will proceed as per the email thread)

c. Partners in Community Service

Father John mentioned the new partner of Literacy Volunteers

d. Energy Efficiency Team—Laura Jennings

We are looking at an installation time frame for the new windows in latter part of October.

There was some flooding in the warehouse that did not affect our windows but pushed back the timing of the project.

Dismas Club will set up work days to clear paths to and prep the old windows for the new window installation.

Dismas Club will be looking at a work day to address the cove lighting in the Parish Hall.

e. Vocations Committee—Father John

The meetings being held at Blessed Sacrament to explore the Permanent Diaconate are being well received across the diocese with people calling and writing to see about joining in on these meetings and/or starting their own groups.

Momentum in activities developing here-

-cards are available for honoring priests that have been meaningful to you; sale of the cards during the JMT concert raised \$150.00

-Holy Hour for Vocations went very well and more will be scheduled

-November 4th will initiate Vocations Awareness Week and activities will be announced

The appointment of our new bishop will probably not happen until the investigation of our former bishop is completed. Use of Father Annie's prayer was encouraged as well as our own prayers for a new bishop.

f. Social Justice Objectives and Catholic Social Teaching Initiatives

1) Update on the housing project for Colleen and others—Father John

At this time everything is on hold at least until there is an appointment of a new bishop for our diocese.

Although Father John's vision for the housing project is still there the potential timing of things is too distant to maintain the discussion at this time.

Colleen has located a first floor apartment nearby with reasonable rent (affordable for her) and if she feels it is suitable or can be made suitable Father John advised that she should take it. He committed to doing what it would take to make it suitable for her.

2) The quarterly movie had a moderate attendance, but it was again burdened by projection issues. John Gianola offered to get together with Rick and Tim on viable solutions so that we can continue with confidence to present important films for discussion for those who choose to attend.

3) Mary Pat Peck and Rick Brennan have been unable to mesh schedules to talk about Mary Pat's interest in root causes of people remaining in the “help system” of our Partners in Community Service and what we might do as a church community to feed into impacting the root cause part of the model of help.

- 4) The new adult faith formation program called “Catholicism” will also help to sharpen our focus in relation to social justice and Catholic social teachings although that is obviously not the primary focus.

g. **Liturgical Ministries** – Everyone is praying for the success of the new Family Faith Formation program starting October 7, 2018 and encouraging attendance.

h. **Finance Council** – no comments at this time

i. **Web Notes** – no comments at this time

j. Parish Ministries

update on Transportation Ministry

Tim reported that Caroline will prepare a blurb for the Announcements that could be used quarterly. Susan will call Caroline and discuss meeting with Ann about outside sources for transportation if we are stressed.

2. Other General Parish Concerns, Comments, Initiatives

a. PPC Name Tags

There was a consensus that PPC members will not wear name tags (although new members did not know about them! Susan took responsibility for that omission.)

What can be done to identify PPC members to the parish?

- be recognized at mass
- posting pictures in Gathering Space
- adding pictures to a new ministry brochure

b. Citing names in PPC Minutes

Susan anonymously shared a very helpful email exchange she had with a parishioner about citing names in the PPC Minutes. As a general policy names are not included. In the instance of the previous months citing the council supported Susan's decision as did Father John. It was a unique circumstance that warranted inclusion of names.

Parishioners' comments and concerns are presented anonymously to the PPC. Anyone who has a concern and brings it to Father John or any PPC member can be assured of this. Susan remarked that in her years on the council in only one other case was a name mentioned (not in the minutes) so that the concern could be fully addressed. Dozens of concerns have been presented anonymously and handled as such; these are usually about things that are a concern for more than one person so if changes are made they are felt by all.

c. Parish Picnic

Most of the feedback has been positive about having future picnic on church grounds. There was a suggestion that we could make use of Oakes Field which is located behind the building. Some parishioners felt alienated when dining in areas away from the hall and one mentioned not knowing about activities in our gymnasium.

Note: see Father John's updated information in the 10/6-7 announcements about younger people preferring the park and older people preferring the church. He has asked for more input.

3. Other Staff Concerns, Comments, Initiatives

- a. Trailer update—Father John was served an order of eviction (as the owner) from the trailer park owners. The tenant was served an order of eviction. Magistrate court hearings are set for both. Lawyers on the PPC advised Father on proper procedures. Father John will pay for any of tenant's personal costs in moving.
- b. Father John will meet with Archbishop Lori (temporary administrator of the diocese) on 10/5/2018. In part he will discuss building the new columbarium. We have the money to build, but there has been some back and forth with the diocese finance office about their approval for the project. Father intends to make Bishop Lori aware of the facts and history and seek permission to continue with the project. (see announcements of 10/6-7 for update on the meeting)

4. New Goal Setting Cycle

We began to look at our Parish Mission Statement to see if it will continue to meet our needs as a parish.

What was Jesus' mission on Earth? The answer to this will help us. After all His mission is our mission.

Susan had us meet in groups (perhaps with people we didn't know or wanted to know better) to begin our discussion. Hopefully comments will be sent in to guide the continuation of the discussion at the next meeting. Laura suggested that we take this item up earlier next time.

CLOSING PRAYER: We were asked to do this in our small groups and leave as we wished.

ADJOURNMENT

Next PPC Meeting: Monday, November 5, 2018 with Prayer Leader Danny Scalise and Secretarial Aide Laura Jennings

Contributions to the Agenda to: skchurchill.9642@yahoo.com circa 10/31/2018