

# Blessed Sacrament Parish Pastoral Council

## Meeting Agenda – March 5, 2018

*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

Facilitator: Jo Stone  
Vince Stricker  
Susan Churchill  
Bob Sylvester  
David Elliot  
John Gianola  
Joe Gresham  
Molly Linehan

Rick Brennan  
Tom McLane  
Kay Margocee  
Colleen O'Neill  
John Finnell  
Matthew Crabtree  
Peg Nagem  
John Hanna

Travis Green  
Bob Lucas  
Jeanne Haas  
Natalie Zellers  
Mark Haas  
Joe Jenkins  
Guest  
Tim Norris  
John Shawler

**7:00 pm** Opening Prayer (David Elliott)

**7:10 pm** Kudos (All)

- The first meeting of the safety committee went well.
- The RCIA team is doing a really fine job.
- The Hayes family collection of food for good shepherd was a success.
- Father John's homily on the ten commandments was very thought provoking.
- Dismas club did an outstanding job preparing snacks for the movie night.
- Father John and Jeanie did a great job for their work with the first communicants.
- The saints posters in the worship space have provoked a lot of interest by our parishioners, especially the deceased parishioners pictures.
- Jeanie's work on the take-out boxes is nice and provides a good method to bring Lent into our homes.

**7:20 pm** General Parishioner Concerns (All)

- Would like to see a crucifix up front. Fr John explained ramifications. It would require overall reworking of the altar space including a permanent altar.
- The extra sermon (introduction) before the Mass has provided many comments. Some are complaints, some are kudos. We will monitor.

**7:30 pm** Staff Concerns (Father John)

- Stations of the Cross have had a good turnout and are going well.
- There is a special holy hour (Taizé) this Friday.
- There are a surprising number of people doing something different for Lent.
- There was a raid on immigrants at the tortilla factory in Barboursville. It is owned by a member of our parish
- We received a card addressed to parish council from visitors from California. They felt welcomed and were touched by an invitation to the pancake breakfast that day. They enclosed a check for \$1,000 to support our parish's efforts.
- A donation of \$10,000 was made for a John Michal Talbot concert hosted at Blessed Sacrament on Friday September 14. There will be no charge for attendance, but tickets will be printed up to ensure there is seating available for those attending.
- Nick Taylor's mother died. She wasn't found for two weeks. It was declared a suicide. He is moving to Ohio and will stay with cousin.
- We are trying to schedule movie on April 8. There may be a conflict with other activities. More information will be forthcoming.
- The question was raised, "When do we start recruiting for Pastoral Council next term?" Father John will ensure a calendar will be in place by April Meeting for the process.

**7:45 pm** Catholic Social Ministries Gathering (Molly Linehan)

Kate Kosydar put out a net asking about social ministry gathering. A conference was held in Washington DC. Molly attended and prepared a report (see attachment). Highlights can also be found at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frpatb6Fnqw> The event was put on the USCCB  
<http://www.usccb.org/> .

**7:55 pm** Safety Awareness Update (Joe Jenkins)

We had a great meeting. We had a full attendance with a good mix of participants. There was consensus of how to move forward. We will:

- Coordinate with South Charleston Police Dept.
- Coordinate with Fire Dept and EMS.
- An emergency plan will be worked on at next meeting.
  - Geared to this parish
  - An exercise will be held for the whole parish to let them know what is going on and what to do in the event of an incident.

The next meeting is March 20. Kudos from Father John for the direction of the meeting.

**8:01 pm** Goal Team Break Out Session (All)

**8:20 pm** Goal Team Reports (All)

See Goals and Objective document

It was suggested that we publish special events on our Facebook page. Bob Lucas will look into this.

**8:55 pm** Closing Prayer (David Elliott)

**9:00 pm** Adjourn

**Next PPC Meeting:** Monday, April 2, 2018 7 – 9 pm

Prayer Leader: Vince Stricker

## Attachment

# Catholic Social Ministries Gathering 2018

## Social Justice

Message from Pope Francis to the World Meeting of Popular Movements

In Modesto CA last February, there was a World Meeting of Popular Movements. Many of the people who attended the meeting I was just at in DC were at that meeting last year. They are still talking about the meeting and seem to be living on its energy. The pope actually wrote a personal message to the group (about 700 community leaders) who were there. A copy of that letter was at each of our seats as we arrived at the conference on Saturday. People talked about how bishops came and sat right along side the people. There were a total of 20 bishops in attendance and Cardinal Turkson represented the Vatican. This year, in DC, the USCCB organizers showed this video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frpatb6Fnqw>) to convey the energy at the meeting. To contextualize (given that our students only know one bishop), the man who speaks of the 'glamour of evil' is Bishop Shelton Fabre of Louisiana. And the one who speaks of intrinsic human rights declaring that "This economy kill" is Robert McElroy, Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego. The energy at the DC conference was clearly a distant reflection of the excitement many felt in Modesto last year. I will bring a copy of Pope Francis' letter to you in case you can use any of it in class. It all amounted to very immediate and impassioned social justice issues.

I'll share copies of the letter from Pope Francis.

## The role of social healers

A conversation between David Brooks and Mark Shields

David Brooks says that we are in the midst of the 3rd phase of society. He said that the first wave was the 1940s-1950s and was characterized by the motto "we're all in this together". Great institutions were created during that time. Then came 1960s with the age of individualism which was characterized by economic individualism for the conservatives and social/sexual individualism for the liberals. He sees that great innovations came during this phase. Now is the 3rd phase in which institutions have broken down and people are turning to tribalism. Brooks says that we currently yearn for two things: for love and for goodness/righteousness. But we have no place to turn. The institutions aren't trusted. The intellectuals aren't trusted. The elites aren't trusted. The only people trusted, Brooks says, are "you guys: the social healers. The addiction counselors, those attending suicide hotlines, the social workers...". Brooks went on to talk about how our society needs healing. He says that for some reason the collective story (an exodus story) that we came to this country poor and in need of an opportunity to work and rise from poverty is (for some reason) no longer satisfying. Brooks seemed to be saying that the social healers are the ones who need to reform the meaningful story that we can all unite within. People need to feel that they belong to something.

## Racism

Bishop George Murry, SJ spoke about the new Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism. Most Bishop Murry's presentation was on the history of Catholic complacency on racism. You can learn more about this committee here: <http://www.usccb.org/news/2017/17-149.cfm>

## **Modern Martyrs**

Monday Morning's Prayer honored Modern Martyrs, many of whom I was not familiar with. A few are:

Fr. Frans van der Lugt (Syria, April 7, 2014)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/08/world/middleeast/dutch-priest-shot-to-death-in-syrian-city-homs.html>

Fr. Murtada Ablahad (Iraq, Jan. 20, 2015) "ISIS executed Christian Pastor Murtaza Ablahad, 44 years old in Mosul today. ISIS had demanded ransom from his family in return for his release, but could not deliver it on time, a medical source told Rudaw."

Shahbaz Bhatti (Pakistan, March 2, 2011) <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-12617562>

Cardinal Posadas Ocampo (Mexico, May 24, 1993) <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/6054152.stm>

Dorothy Stang, SNDdeN (Brazil, Feb. 12, 2005)

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/sister-dorothy-stang-died-fighting-for-brazils-landless-10-years-later-not-much-has-changed/2015/02/12/c68a64a0-b2f7-11e4-bf39-5560f3918d4b\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.e057d4de9273](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/sister-dorothy-stang-died-fighting-for-brazils-landless-10-years-later-not-much-has-changed/2015/02/12/c68a64a0-b2f7-11e4-bf39-5560f3918d4b_story.html?utm_term=.e057d4de9273)

Msgr. Michael Curry (Burundi, Dec. 29, 2003) <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/3355289.stm>

## **Catholic Social Media Compact**

Fr. Matthew Malone referenced America Magazine's The Catholic Social Media Compact. I'll share copies of that. (See below.)

## America Magazine's The Catholic Social Media Compact

1. We will treat every individual, especially those with whom we disagree, with the respect owed them as children of God. While engaging in spirited disagreement and debate, we will pursue the truth in charity and seek the good of the other in all we do.
2. We will presume, as far as possible, the good intentions of our interlocutors. We will not attribute an opinion to someone that he or she has not openly declared or is not logically implied by his or her actions. We will seek to build up, not tear down.
3. We will, as far as possible, question the logic, truthfulness and morality of propositions, rather than the motives, integrity or moral character of persons.
4. When conscience or the demands of justice prompt us to challenge people or institutions, we will not merely denounce the actions of others. As far as possible, we will propose an alternative, genuinely constructive course of action.
5. As befits the vocation of journalists, we will employ a healthy skepticism. As befits the vocation of Christians, we will avoid toxic cynicism.
6. We may employ levity and irony, but we will avoid sarcasm, sneering and hostile humor, which are destructive of comity and dialogue.
7. Even when we are the objects of calumnious attacks, we will not use a sharper mode of response than befits people of faith.
8. When we are wrong, we will promptly admit it, correct the public record and ask for forgiveness.
9. We will, as far as possible, identify and celebrate the good, the true and the beautiful as much as we name and challenge what is immoral, unjust or evil.
10. We will seek to bear witness to the one we serve in all our words and deeds. Accordingly, before posting content to social media, we will recite the prayer, "Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise."