

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Present: Fr. Joe Dorner, Mike Calawerts, Helen Wellens, Tom Schampers, Carol VandenBush

Excused: Jean Laux, Mike Quinn, Tom Pecor

Prayer: Fr. Joe led us in opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda: Helen asked to add a Lenten Series called “Best Lent Ever” to the agenda. After this addition, agenda approved as written.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for our December 11, 2018 were approved as written. The Dec. 20th Longest Night Prayer Service was mentioned in the minutes. Fr. Joe said more needs to be done next year to invite people to attend this Dec. 20th night remembering those who struggle with homelessness. He would like to have a better attendance for this event.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Committee Reports...

Finance Committee: Mike Quinn was not in attendance. Fr. Joe shared that Year to Date our envelope donations should be at \$86,000. We are now at \$81,000.

Building & Grounds: Fr. Joe informed us that we have utilized all our capital improvement funds for the year. The funds were used for new windows in the Ricklin Room, new flooring in the rectory kitchen, plumbing work, and unclogging the sewer.

Deaf Community: Jean Laux was unable to attend this evening.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Potential New Pastoral Council Members...

Helen suggested that we put an announcement in the bulletin asking anyone interested in this position to contact Fr. Joe. Also, include a description of responsibilities of council members.

B. New Music Minister hired...

Fr. Joe informed all that he hired Antonio Saldana as our new music director. He also said that Jason Pues would be interested in helping whenever needed. Both of these men play at an appropriate tempo for liturgy, chose singable hymns, and have good cantors they can count on. Antonio will soon be re-establishing our St. John’s Choir.

C. Winter 2018 Adult Faith Formation...

The Alpha Courses for St. Francis Xavier and St. John's began December 6 and will be ending in February. This course is doing well at both parishes.

D. SJE/SFX Appreciation Luncheon...

All thought this luncheon for volunteers was a success. It was nice to meet more people from our parish and also from the Cathedral. We talked about maybe having a summer get together with a luncheon for all parishioners.

E. Compass Ad for 5:30 Mass...

Mike passed out an ad to be placed in the Compass to inform people that we have the latest Sat. evening English Mass in our area. It is eye-catching and hopefully will draw more people to our parish. Mike will be working on several other ways to draw people to join St. John's. Fr. Joe suggested that Mike call Paul Lubinsky who does Advertising Booklets for our local community. Maybe we could put our parish info on Facebook. Also look around at Mass and try to engage in conversation with people we don't recognize. Tom Pecor shared at a prior meeting that maybe Jeff Mirkes, Exec. Dir. of Downtown GB Inc., would advertise our liturgies in pamphlets that he distributes.

F. One by One Capital Campaign in Fall 2019 or Spring 2020...

Fr. Joe asked if the council members would be okay with starting this campaign in Spring of 2020. All were in favor of this. Half of the monies donated would be given to the Diocese and half would be used for the enhancement of our parish. Father would like to propose some ideas for using this campaign money and get ideas from parishioners. This will be a work in progress.

G. Review of Parish Pastoral Council Diocesan Policies...

Council members revisited these policies and felt that one of the main purposes of our council is to work in collaboration with our pastor to prayerfully discern what the Holy Spirit is calling the parish to be and become. We need to consider the spiritual and physical concerns and needs of parishioners as well as look at what is the common good for all and the mission of our parish. We plan on looking at our present Mission Statement and possibly rewriting a meaningful, shortened version. Tom will furnish us with Mission Statements used in the past for St. John's.

H. Other Business...

Lenten Opportunities: Fr. Joe will be presenting “A Biblical Walk through the Mass”, a DVD Series by Dr. Edward Sri from Mar. 14 through April 11. Fr. Joe will also be offering “Stations of the Cross” every Friday on alternate weeks at St. Francis Xavier and St. John’s. Also, Helen will be informing parishioners about “Best Lent Ever” a free 2019 e-mail program offered on Dynamic Catholic.com

Fr. Joe informed us that our 2019 Bishop’s Appeal goal is \$13,507 and we have now reached 94% of our goal.

Fr. Joe would like to have a map of our parish drawn up that would show people where they can park at St. John’s besides on the street. He wants people to know there is parking at the homeless shelter west of the Church and also parking available in the parking lot across Madison Street.

Ideas for growing our parish: For our next meeting, we will be developing a welcome packet to be included with the stewardship envelope passed out to people joining our parish. Also, we will take a look at our parish boundaries and continue to come up with ways to invite people to St. John’s. One idea brought forth tonight was to obtain things that are needed at Howe School and invite Howe families to join us.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Joe concluded our meeting with a prayer and blessing.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:00 PM