

Parish Pastoral Council
March 9, 2017
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Fr. Peter Gori, Deacon Lou Piazza, Sister Madonna Kling, Brad Heim, Cindy Cookson, Maura Reardon, Suzie Scarpulla, Monica Gallacher, Anthony Ganci, William Green, Sean Sexton, David Tagliaferri, Chris O'Reilly, John Markiewicz, Thomas Papineau and Eileen Rullo.

Absent: Fr. Arthur Johnson, Deacon Michael Curren, Andrew Botti, Rich Padova and Erik Eldracher.

Opening Prayer: The group began with the New Evangelization prayer.

Video/Discussion:

- The council watched a video on the Seven Qualities of the New Evangelization and discussed which qualities were most evident at Saint Augustine and which can be improved upon.
- The group agreed that our parish does a very good job with the "Friendship with Jesus" aspect of NE and highlighted the value of evangelizing through personal invitation. The importance of personal connections within the faith community and a gentleness in the sharing of our faith to reach those fallen away were both addressed.
- Our identity as an Augustinian parish adds a depth of spirituality and adherence to faith traditions.
- Ideas for growth included increasing the use of media sources to enhance the prayer and faith experience of parishioners, engaging the families whose children are receiving the Sacraments of Initiation, attending Mass at neighboring parishes to see what's being done to engage their flock and creating a survey where parishioners can provide feedback.
- Additionally, it was suggested that the parish might offer opportunities over Christmas break for college students to reconnect and possibly having our ardently faithful senior citizen parishioners engage with the youth in religious education.

Interior Painting of Church:

The project is slated to run from July 10 - August 25, with some ancillary areas being painted earlier. No funerals or weddings will take place during that time frame; arrangements at neighboring parishes have been made for funerals. Weekday Masses will take place in Father Smith Hall. During the week of Vacation Bible School, daily Mass will take place downstairs. Weekend Masses will be in the church.

Parish Mission/150th Closing Mass:

- The parish mission, led by Father Ray Dlugos, will take place on March 26-28 in the church at 7:00 p.m. each evening. Members of the PPC are encouraged to attend and provide a welcoming presence.
- Bishop Hennessey will celebrate the 150th anniversary closing Mass on Sunday, August 27 at 11:30 a.m.

Liturgical Changes/Updates:

A few updates are taking place within the liturgical ministries:

All ministers will wear name tags when serving, the EMHC will now be responsible for asking a family to bring up the offertory (instead of Hospitality doing it), the Hospitality ministers will invite parishioners to assist in the collection, headcount will not be taken at every Mass, and the collection will not process to the altar.

Ministry Report

Father Peter communicated the retirement of Klara Vajda who was the head of the Outreach Ministry. Her responsibilities are being delegated to members of staff and other ministries within the parish. She will remain involved as a volunteer coordinator for the Senior Luncheon, the Cancer Survivors group, the Divorced & Separated group and SVDP.

Final Meeting & PPC Breakfast

- The PPC will have its final meeting before breaking for the summer on June 10 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. All members are encouraged to attend both to thank those members whose terms are ending and to welcome in the new council members.
- Nominations will take place May 20-28 and the new members will be selected at the 4:00 p.m. Mass on June 3.

Closing Prayer - The group closed with The Lord's Prayer.