

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - January 7, 2016

In Attendance: Fr. Ray McHenry, Dave Dirks, Chris Doud, Cassie Edgar, Anne Franzen, Joe Happe, Carolyn Kirchhoff, Ted Nahas, Jay Vogt, Laura Wenman

Absent: Jennifer Krzak, Fr. Adam Westphal

The meeting was called to order by Joe Happe at 6:35pm and began with prayer. The meeting agenda was reviewed and approved.

The meeting minutes from the December meeting were reviewed and motion made by Ted Nahas to approve. The motion was seconded by Laura Wenman.

Pastoral Update

Father Ray McHenry gave a pastoral report. Items of note:

- 2016 is going to be an exciting and busy year: Catholics Come Home Campaign, Year of Mercy, SFA 25th Anniversary Celebration, and Pastoral Planning Process.
- The 2016 budget process has begun.
- We welcome four new Catholics into our parish at the Jan 10th 8am Mass.
- Fr. Adam will be out of the office each Friday as a designated time to study Canon Law.
- Fr. Ray once again travels with a group to Johannesburg leaving Jan 14th- our prayers go with him.

Old Business

- Pastoral Planning process update
 - Jay Vogt shared feedback from the meeting of the Pastoral Planning Committee. It was lightly attended; Josh Faber was not in attendance. Take away was committee would continue to be available upon need/request, but would not be holding regularly scheduled meetings.
 - Moving forward, Fr. Ray will be responsible to keep the process on track with the PC keeping up-to-date at our monthly meetings and assisting as needed.
 - Looking at the RGI Recommended Prioritization, the majority of items listed as an Immediate Priority and Top Priority seem to be implemented or in-process/discussion. An item which has not been apparent in discussions is the recommendation to improve the music ministry. Fr. Ray will follow up with the appropriate parties to move this recommendation forward.

New Business

- Comments on Christmas Season at St. Francis:
 - Strong attendance numbers: Christmas Eve 3:30pm = 2200 people, 6pm = 1050 people, 8pm = 943 people, 10pm = 624 people, Christmas Day 9am = 760 people.
 - 2,200 people at the 3:30 service - church, gathering space chairs, and parish hall were full plus people standing (packed) in the gathering space. Some people left. Discussed idea of using the school gym in the future to accommodate the large numbers.
 - Seat saving was an issue that will need to be addressed for the future - especially at the 3:30pm Christmas Eve Mass where entire rows were being saved.
 - Children's choir led the music at the heavily attended 3:30 Christmas Eve Mass. While very nice, it was often hard to hear cantors/leaders. Might be more appropriate to have higher level of experience in leadership roles at a Mass of that size in the future.
 - The book handout (Rediscover Jesus by Mathew Kelly) seems to have been well received.
- January - December 2016 Timeline - provided on reverse of the agenda for planning purposes. Correction made to Fr. Ray's birthday (9/6/16).

- Nursery Proposal - the New Initiative Preliminary Proposal form was completed to bring the Nursery Ministry back to SFA. This serves as a great example of the form's use in bring needed and well thought-out ministries to our parish with a strong foundation. Great example.

Liaison Reports

- Reports were provided to PC regarding the 25th Anniversary Committee, Board of Education, Buildings & Grounds, Finance Committee, and Worship & Spirituality. No specific PC discussion on these items to be noted.

With no other business to be completed, the meeting concluded in prayer at 7:55 pm.