

ST. BRUNO PARISH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
February 23, 2016

Members Present: Fr. Ralph Gross, Scott Vandenhouten, John Mezydlo Jr., Rita Borowski, Jenny Harnack, Steve Paquin, Mary Pfaff, Louise Diodato

Members Excused: Fr. Chuck Wrobel, Amanda Borth, Jerry Dorff, Bob Leonard, Pat Seegers, Joe Kuenzli

Approve Previous Minutes: Jenny moved that the January 26, 2016 minutes be approved. Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Thank You Cards

- Sarah Daszczuk
- Rebecca Ramage (Liturgical Environment Team)
- Tim Meyer

Old Business

- Parishioners are concerned about the change in Mass times. Comments are mixed: Just get it over with and tell me; Doesn't matter to me; I might change Parishes.
- Goals: additions and revisions were made to the goals identified last month.
 - High School students should be more involved in the Parish. Perhaps we could invite students to the Pastoral Council meetings and become mentors to spark youth enthusiasm. The goal would be to draft a plan and create a timeline for implementation next year.
 - Investigate SeveralSourcesFd.org to determine if St. Bruno can set up a shelter for the homeless. The goal would be to decide the feasibility and evaluate.
 - A goal to increase parishioner awareness that donations are down.
 - A goal to increase volunteerism.

New Business

- The School Committee would like approval from the Pastoral Council to proceed with purchasing a multi-media device for the Gathering Place. It could be a large screen TV or a screen and projector system. The school would use it, but it could also be used for other events or activities held in the Gathering Place. The school is not asking it to be a budget item; the cost would be around \$1,800 to \$3,500 and the school would have a fund raiser to pay for it.
There were many questions and concerns from the Councilors. After much discussion, John and the School Committee were asked to solicit input from the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Communication Committee. A draft policy for how the equipment would be used would be helpful. More information about raising money is required. The Finance Council needs to be aware of the fund raising method. The Councilors had no objection to the concept, but more work needs to be done to bring this to completion.
- Mass Time Survey was handed out at the Feb 20-21 weekend Masses at St. Bruno and St. Paul. The flyers inserted in the Bulletins for the previous two weekends were useful to help the parishioners understand the need to reduce the number of Masses each weekend. The committee appointed to reduce the number of Masses will compile the data and report.
- The Administrative Assistant for St. Bruno Parish has been hired. Chrystal Arnott works three days a week.

Transition Initiative – Joint Meeting

- Rita reported that because she gave a long report the previous month, she would keep this report short. The committees are moving ahead as scheduled.
- There are many Take 5 opportunities, but Father Ralph is disappointed with the low turnout. Most adults have busy lives, and unfortunately can't add another event to their schedules. Father Ralph stressed the importance of faith in his life and it should be so in everyone's life.
- The Year of Mercy has a different spiritual or corporate Work for each month, and each Parish in the Archdiocese is committed to carry out that Work. Sarah Daszczuk, Youth Minister, is including a flyer in the Bulletin that describes the Work for that month.
- Both schools at St. Bruno and St. Paul are now Parental Choice Schools. This is exciting news for both parishes. Father Ralph is very proud of both Principals; it took a lot of work to accomplish.
- St. Paul has a Faith Formation family program that brings in a guest speaker. The last speaker was exceptionally good, but, unfortunately very few attended. Could these sessions be opened for everyone, not just the family faith formation? This question will be sent to the Faith Formation Committee.

Pastor's Report/Calendar

- Take 5 Opportunities
- Fridays during Lent Stations of the Cross
- 2/26/16 – St. Paul Fish Fry (4:30 – 7:30 p.m.)
- 2/26-27/16 – Mom2Mom Retreat
- 3/6/16 – 11th Anniversary of Dedication of “New” St. Bruno Church and Happy Birthday Fr. Ralph
- 3/12/16 – 10th Annual Men of Christ Conference
- 3/19-20/16 – Palm Sunday Weekend
- 3/22/16 – Chrism Mass – St. John the Evangelist Cathedral
- 3/24/16 – Holy Thursday
- 3/25/16 – Good Friday
- 3/26/16 – Easter Vigil
- 3/27/16 – Easter
- 4/8/16 – Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- 4/30/16 – Men Who Cook Dinner and Auction
- 6/5/16 – Fr. Vincent Strand's Mass of Thanksgiving (10:30 a.m. Mass)
- 6/18-19/16 – Fr. Ralph's Last Weekend

Parish Model – Joint Meeting

Rita presented a model of how the two parishes might look. With God at the top; led by the Pastor with the Trustees, Pastoral Councils, and Finance Councils; and the parishioners asking and receiving Faith Formation, Parish Life, and Human Concerns.

In addition, Rita gave us a table of the various Faith Formation age groups with many of the activities listed (Early Childhood includes Baptism, 1st Reconciliation, etc.). Each staff position was identified below the activities.

The remainder of the time was spent in discussion. Some themes:

- Is Faith Formation staff adequately reaching parishioners? What help do they need?
- Do Mary Kral and Sarah Daszczuk know the parishioners at St. Bruno to successfully guide them through faith formation? Do they need more time?
- Does the Finance Council have all the tools needed to manage the finances of the parish?
- Are the Pastoral Councilors advisors to the Pastor?

Liaison Reports

- APC: Did not meet
- Communications:
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- Faith Formation:
 - Continue to work on FF6, answering the question: What would parishioners like to see in faith formation?
 - Totus Tuus on track for Summer 2016
 - Catholic ID begins Feb. 15, 2016
 - Committee pleased with the number of Take 5 opportunities
- Human Concerns:
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- Prayer & Worship:
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- School:
 - School committee is looking for Pastoral Council approval to put either a projector or big screen TV in gathering space for multi-purpose use.
 - St. Bruno's has been approved for school choice (see bulletin). A targeted demographic mailer has been sent out to notify families of the opportunity.
 - School committee members have decided to run the golf outing.
 - Men Who Cook dinner is in April and are always looking for donations
- Stewardship: No meeting
 - Put on the Chili Dinner on January 30. A good time was had by all. Approximately 120 people attended and about \$250 was raised benefitting St. Vincent de Paul.
- Buildings and Grounds:
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- Finance Council:
 - Discussion about possible refinancing of remaining loan in order to lock in remainder of balance at current rates. Our current loan goes through April of 2018 with a large balloon payment at the end. Refinancing would allow the amortization of the full loan balance and avoid the 2018 interest rate risk.
 - In process of obtaining bids for possible replacement of carpeting in Gathering Place.
 - Discussed the possibility of the replacement of church lights with LED lights.
 - Discussed budgeting process, cluster staff sharing and how to allocate those costs.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 22, 7pm, at St. Bruno

Prepared and submitted by
Louise Diodato