

**St. Paul the Apostle Parish**  
**Pastoral Council Minutes — November 18, 2019**

**Present:** Darlene Biedrzycki, David Ferraro, Diane Ingalsbe, Jeff Volk, Joan Walter, Tony Noll  
Fr. Yamid Blanco, Kim Leslie, Kristina Knesting, Marissa Johnson, Robert MacDonald

**Guests:** Danielle Branely

**Members not in attendance:** David Holland, Grace Szczerba, Nolan Tremelling

**Opening Prayer** was lead by Chairperson, Tony Noll. Various members of the Council added their own special intentions to the prayer.

Tony began by passing around a sheet of paper for council members to put down the names and contact info of the people they think may be a good fit for the Stewardship Commission. Tony will be working with Father to organize contacting these people and inviting them to join the Commission.

The October Minutes were approved by email and have already been forwarded to Sue Vrana and Jennie Wiseman.

**Guest: Danielle Branley**

**Stewardship**

- Danielle showed us a pamphlet she had made with a group from another parish advertising for their Stewardship Commission. She pointed out that the Pastoral Report was the focal point of the pamphlet and how important it is for parishioners to know where the collection money is going, so they are inclined to stay in the parish/continue donating.
- She also presented a Stewardship book from her previous parish that may be helpful for the new St. Paul Stewardship Commission. Cost \$??

**Harmony Club**

- Respite care service for the caregivers of seniors. Volunteers give the primary caregivers a break. Danielle would like to give a pulpit announcement inviting members of St. Paul's to volunteer at the Harmony Club.
- Concerns were raised about possibly liabilities if volunteers are considered to be representing St. Paul the Apostle—Danielle will bring our questions and concerns to the woman in charge of the Harmony Club and get back to us.

**Reports & Presentations**

**Fr. Yamid's Report**

- Highlights:
  - Brenda White did a wonderful job. Wanted to thank Robert for contacting her. Intending to have her return once a year to update the parish, maybe bring kids to speak in the future
  - The Mass of Remembrance and Rosary Talk both went very well
- Mentioned plans for a Christmas Party
- Holy hour for life

- The Capital Campaign is now called “Love One Another”
  - We need to choose which wave we want to be included in
    - Wave 1-pilot: July 2020-Dec 2020
    - Wave 2: Jan 2021-July 2021
    - Wave 3: July 2021-Dec 2021
  - St. Louis chose Wave 3. Wanting to make things easy on Father, the Council voted on Wave 3 so messages and efforts could be streamlined for both parishes.
- Catholic Stewardship Appeal 2020 Pulpit Speech
  - Neither St. Paul’s or St. Louis have ever done this, we just watch their video. However, they are requiring Father to give them a name for the speaker by Nov 22. Robert was nominated.
  - The next item on our agenda was the CSA chair-training sessions.
    - If anyone wants to be trained for this event, they need to go to the website RegFox and register
- Next Stewardship talk maybe in 2020

## **New Business**

### **Pancake Breakfast Feedback**

- 180 people attended
- The Knights of Columbus volunteers had plenty of food, people paid for their ticket and got as many rounds as they wanted
- Very efficient lines.
- Everyone David F. talked to were quick to tell him they had a great time.
- It was on a Youth Mass night so we probably missed out on some families who went to the evening mass.

### **Committee Sponsored Hospitality**

- No committees have yet to step forward, suggested Pastoral Council could sponsor, have a sort of “meet the Pastoral Council” Hospitality event.

### **Pastoral Plan – First Steps (ongoing)**

- Kim mentioned that the easiest way to come up with a plan is to first define your end goal and then work backwards
- Picked one of Father’s Goals—Welcoming—and started brainstorming
  - Father’s been really pleased with how the Ushers have switched to greeting people before mass and wants name tags for all the Ushers.
  - Darlene’s Suggestion:
    - Wants us to contact 100% of new members within 30 days after they join
    - Checklist of what we want to engage?
    - Exit interviews for people who didn’t respond to the census/are leaving St. Paul’s to glean some insight as to why we are losing people

- Tony suggested group focused masses, such as a Spanish or Latin mass, but to add another mass is far too much work for Father. Will instead look into advertising which parishes are having these types of masses.
- Tony suggested we try to be more accommodating for the Elderly, maybe take out a pew for wheelchair room. Convert the crying room into an elderly wheelchair room and encourage the children to be in the main part of the church.
  - Council was not overly in favor of redesignating the crying room.
- Kim suggested some “Reserved for the Handicapped” flags to go on the back of pews.
- Someone suggested we get something similar to an auction tab for people who can’t get up for Communion, so instead of having to contact an Usher (which not everyone knows to do) they can just wave their flag and the Eucharistic Ministers will know who they need to go to.
- The Council commented on how well John Ellgas is doing training the lectors for the Youth masses and would like to see the youth appearing in the regular masses (this is already in the works).
- Robert discussed the possibility of coming up with ways to encourage the children who are in class before 10:00 to stay for mass with their family.
  - Marissa mentioned an idea Amy had had at a past Committee meeting but has yet to implement: having a “Kid’s Collection,” in which there’s a special basket at the front of the church during offertory for the kids to bring up things like; a drawing they made during class, a thank-you note to Jesus, the 25¢ they got for mowing the lawn, etc.

## **Liaison Reports**

### **Human Concerns - Jeff**

- Wondering if/when committees will be added to FlockNote
  - Father is currently of the stance that he doesn’t want to add the Committees at this point in time.
  - Father was also concerned about training additional administrators
- Discussed the adjustments of not having the bulletins readily available at the beginning of mass.
- Suggested getting an electronic monitor in the Narthex displaying upcoming events on a loop. This could be one of the portable TVs
- On the subject of our plan to bring in a facilitator to have a meeting with all committees to work on a 3-5 year plan: Why limit it to only the committees, why not the whole parish?
  - If we have too many people in a meeting, nothing is going to get done.
  - Maybe we’ll have a hospitality to invite ideas from the parishioners, perhaps in conjunction with our “Meet the Pastoral Council” hospitality.

### **Building and Grounds - Kim**

- Noticed the children’s liturgy kids are kind of loud, can they be heard in church?
  - Council says no.

- We need a more visible AED
  - Currently there is one in the usher room, but not many people know and it's not in a particularly obvious place.
  - Options: either get a second AED or move the first one to a more obvious place, like the Narthex. Kim is beginning to look into what it would take to get a second one from the hospital
- We need to set up Usher training to get them trained on the new policies that have been passed and also just generally update the ushers
  - Deacon Dale is planning on speaking with Dean on the matter
- The property has been sold

### **Hospitality - Diane**

- Upcoming Events
  - Pie Social - Nov 27 after Thanksgiving mass
  - Kids' Christmas Party Dec 1st right after mass
    - Hospitality is catering, Christian Formation/Evangelization is staffing/organizing volunteers
  - Bake Sale Dec 7-8
  - Human Concerns Respect Life Baptism Reception Jan 7
  - Father's 2nd Group 40-60 year olds Jan 19
- Once a month Donuts/coffee hospitality sponsored by committees
  - Committees would sponsor and serve

### **Technology Committee - Tony**

- Approved: mics and hymn boards will be going in this year. Hearing assistance devices will be upgraded along with the mics
- Speakers will not be going in until after New Year's
- There will be some additional options with the new system regarding hearing assistance devices

Father Yamid lead the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marissa Johnson