

Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
Thursday May 23, 2019
Simon House 5:30 pm

Members present: Linda Levos, Denise Schneider (LOL), Jan Moser (Prayer and Worship), Rosio Adame (Hispanic Ministry), Kim Arlt (Admin/Finance), Dianne Keiter (Prayer and Worship), Belinda Keiter (Stewardship, Evangelization, Community Building), Cheryl Rambour (FFF, Catechesis), Tim Cumberland (Leadership Team)

Trustees present: Don Heimes, Dennis Grennan

Members excused: Chad Gonka, Maria Horta, Stephanie Johnson, Tyler Linder, Clete Pillen, Patricia Chavez

Ex Officio: Fr. Mike Swanton

Opening prayer: Dennis Grennan

Call to Order: Fr. Mike Swanton

The Parish Pastoral Council met at Simon House and Dennis Grennan enlightened us with some history of Simon House, named after Brother Simon, the brother-in-law of Mary Jo Van Ackeren, a St. Bonaventure parishioner, who founded Simon House in 1991 at St. Bonaventure Church.

Fr. Mike asked for a progress report (action items) from each of the Seven Areas of Parish Life moving forward with the goal of member engagement.

Dianne Keiter (Prayer and Worship) – Dianne has held group meetings to work on the Mass time changes, Mass location changes during Project 2020, contacting gift bearers for Mass times, and working with the lectors. There are continual Intercessory prayer intentions for Project 2020 as the work is in progress. Memorial Day Mass will be at St. Bonaventure Cemetery and Ascension Thursday is May 30th a holy day of obligation.

Cheryl Rambour (Catechesis) – Cheryl had a busy two months with the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. There are 110 children signed up for Vacation Bible School. This is the largest group she has ever had. Steve Kovar is assisting with the decorating and 200 volunteers are helping. Cheryl has three recruits for Catechesis and working on two more recruits. FFF is growing with more parental involvement and attendance. Student attendance is at 99%.

Belinda Keiter (Evangelization and Community Building) – There is a May 29th meeting planned at the Keiter residence to restart PUB Theology at St. Bonaventure. There will be around twenty in attendance to kickstart this program with ideas for topics and speakers. It will be open for all age groups and be held in the Social Hall starting in July. Discovering Christ is in the planning stages to begin this fall for a five-weeks. This program is intended to “ignite one’s faith”. In the Columbus area about 200 have signed up for Arch Omaha Unite in Omaha to be held June 8th at the CHI Health Events Center.

The Welcome and Hospitality group has “welcome baskets” for our new parishioners who have registered at St. Bonaventure Church. They are available at the rectory. Also, a basket of paper products (plates, napkins, cups, Kleenex, etc.) is delivered to families who have lost a loved one from our parish. This has been a much-appreciated act of kindness.

Stephanie Johnson (Justice and Charity) – Belinda spoke on behalf of Stephanie. Stephanie is working with the St. Vincent DePaul ministry. They will be meeting in June to discuss the needs of the ministry and recruiting ten members to assist in administering to the poor of our community. Fr. Mike would like our Hispanic members to assist in this program as interpreters are needed.

Fr. Mike would like to see a First Responder Program at St. Bonaventure. This program is designed to help mentor those newly divorced, widowed, or newly married.

Kim Arlt (Administration/Finance) – Kim reported that e-tithing has 27 newly enrolled parishioners. The Square Program was initiated with FFF tuition payment and worked well. Square Program is a way to pay using Debit/Credit cards. Kim now has five new money counters, so has two crews. She has three new members on the Finance Committee and is looking to add one new member to the Endowment Committee. Kim has been working with the Real Estate Team (Suzi Kobus and Pat Bogus) to recruit more help with the upkeep of the rental homes. Stained-glass window #16 has been refurbished and reinstalled.

Don Heimes (Administration/Finance) – Don reported that Fr. Mike will be moving in to the rectory so the home he resides in will be on the market in August. The money from the sale of the house will go towards Project 2020.

Dennis Grennan (Project 2020) - The project is moving along after a couple of unforeseen incidences. They will be pouring footings soon.

Tim Cumberland (Leadership Team) – Tim brought up the subject of financial responsibility of all our parishioners. How do we change the complacency and get our parishioners to be more responsible in volunteering and tithing? Fr. Mike would like all members to take this subject back to the Seven Areas of Parish Life committees and discuss this very important matter that affects all of us in our parish, grade school, and high school.

Fr. Mike (Pastoral Report) – Please pray for Mauricio Tovar, seminarian for the Archdiocese of Omaha, who will be ordained a deacon Friday May 24, 2019, at Schuyler Central High School. He will be ordained a priest next year. Please pray for Deacon Bill Cremers from St. Anthony parish who will be ordained to the priesthood June 1, 2019 at St. Cecilia Cathedral in Omaha. I want to thank everyone for their hard work these past two busy months—and for your dedication every day. I am pleased at the progress we have accomplished in our parish. As we move forward, please focus on the effective communication and communicating with the various people on your teams to examine their priorities and adjust accordingly to focus more on Jesus.

Prayer person for June is Fr. Mike.

Closing Prayer: Dennis Grennan

Next Meeting: June 27th, 5:30 pm St. Bonaventure Social Hall

Meeting adjourned: 6:50 pm

Respectfully submitted: Linda Levos, PPC Secretary