

Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
Thursday August 28, 2019
Parish Office 10 am

Members present: Linda Levos, Theresa Ingram (LOL), Kim Arlt (Admin/Finance), Dianne Keiter (Prayer and Worship), Belinda Keiter (Stewardship, Evangelization, Community Building), Cheryl Rambour (FFF, Catechesis), Tim Cumberland (Leadership Team)

Members excused: Maria Horta, Stephanie Johnson, Tyler Linder, Clete Pillen, Kim Allen, Kathy Steiner, Dennis Grennen, Don Heimes, Tyler Erikson

Ex Officio: Fr. Mike Swanton

Opening prayer: Fr. Mike Swanton

Call to Order: Fr. Mike Swanton

Fr. Mike had the group roundtable naming a success or some event that occurred in the last week that made an impact in their ministry. There were many positive comments from the group. We as a whole need to continue to be active in our parish even when the physical church is closed. Fr. Mike reinforced the objective of the Parish Pastoral Council to focus on effective communication and evangelization.

Fr. Mike Swanton (Pastoral Report) - Father spoke to the FFF parents Wednesday evening about the current culture in our society which is consuming our faith. Parents need to practice their faith daily and attend Mass. By engaging in your faith, 90% of children will stay involved in their faith. Fr. Mike also attend the Scotus Senior class retreat. The students agreed that they had learned much about their faith but do not know how to apply it in their daily life after graduation. This is something the teachers at Scotus will actively address.

Fr. Mike said that eighty-three families have joined the parish and forty-four families have left, either moving to a different town/state or have died. We as a parish are growing. We need to continue to engage all of our parishioners through positive attitude and good communication.

Weekend Mass attendance and confessions are down since we have moved to the Scotus cafeteria. Tithing is also down about 20% which is to be expected during our transitional period.

Fr. Mike's house is for sale and has had some showings. The living quarters of the rectory are being remodeled with painting, new carpet and flooring, and a bathroom update so Fr. Mike can move in.

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) – Ministry trainings have been scheduled. We are planning to do a potluck with short training with all EMHCs and Lectors in their respective ministries. Sacristans and greeters are still needed to help with our weekend liturgies. The more volunteers we have, the easier the tasks and the less responsibility on any one person. September 7th and 21st 5pm Mass will be held at the KC Hall. Labor Day Mass will be at St. Anthony Church. When the time comes to return to our church, we will only celebrate weekend Masses at first, daily Mass, school Masses and Perpetual Adoration will move back at a later time, TBD.

Cheryl Rambour (Catechesis) – Reach out to the non-Catholic people in our lives who might be interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and joining RCIA. If you aren't comfortable approaching these persons-then ask someone else in their circle to reach out to them. Promote "Discovering Christ" which will meet on Monday's for 7 weeks. 6:00-8:00pm—Social Hall-- September 23-November 4. Promote "Spirits on Fire" intentionally invite people and try to participate ourselves. Cheryl will look into Totus Tuus for next summer.

Belinda Keiter (Evangelization and Community Building) - The first "Spirits on Fire" was July 27, featuring Fr. Bill Cremers who presented on "The Power of the Invitation". About 75 people from all three parishes as well as Duncan attended the event, as well as Fr. Joe, Fr. Ross and Fr. Mike. August 24, Calvin Mueller was our speaker and he talked about having "Courageous Faith". About 65 people from all three parishes attended. **Discovering Christ:** This is a seven-week, free series, to help people grow in their faith, from Catholics who attend Mass every weekend or every day, to those who are not practicing their faith. We have a team of 15 people who have been meeting and planning. Twenty St. Bonaventure women will attend the Cloisters on the Platte retreat the first

weekend in September. Members of the Welcoming Committee have formed a “Mercy” group who takes paper supplies to families from St. Bon’s who have a death in the family. Every month, different members have signed up to put together items and deliver them to the family. This is a beautiful outreach as it gives members a chance to perform a Corporal Work of Mercy while also showing the bereaving family that their parish is thinking and praying for them.

Tim Cumberland has launched the Warriors-In-Christ ministry website, which promotes daily intercessory prayer. We encourage all PPC members and their teams to join and to share it with others. There’s no down-side to having hundreds or thousands of people praying for you each day! <https://warriors-in-christ.com/>

Stephanie Johnson (Justice and Charity) – Stephanie is actively working with Lynette Klug and the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry to encourage more volunteers for home visits. We are planning on a bulletin insert informing people about the Simon House and SVdP conference and their needs. Board members have also expressed interest in sharing short testimonies during weekend Masses. St. Bon’s is scheduled to deliver Meals on Wheel the week of September 16, they are always looking for more volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound that week. If you or someone you know would be interested, please call Jan Brezinski 402-564-6788/402-276-0128. Cleaning of the Scotus cafeteria following Sunday 6:30pm Mass is going very well. Most crews report it only took 20 minutes or so with all the help they are receiving from their crews and those staying after Mass. The proposed plan is to be back in the church for weekend Masses only mid-November. We would like to welcome all cleaning crews to come and give the church a good deep clean prior to the first Mass in celebration of being back! Hard to believe but Christmas is right around the corner and the committee is getting together soon to start the very hard work for the success of the Giving tree in this ministry! The Life Chain is Sunday, October 6th from 1 to 2 pm.

Kim Arlt (Administration/Finance) – The Endowment committee will be looking at new funds to invest with the Archdiocese. Also, Chad Gonka joined the endowment committee and will bring many years of financial experience. The Finance Committee has three new members who were initiated at the last meeting – Ann Ernst, Elaine Zoucha and Joel Young; these three will bring a wealth of knowledge to the committee. With the new online donation starting up and accepting credit cards we are looking into people using their credit cards to make donations and purchase lottery calendars. We will be looking for go-getters/volunteers to help sell more calendars this year. More to follow when this committee kicks up in late October. Adopt-a-student has been reintroduced to help offset tuition for St. Bonaventure students. Kim would like to see St. Bonaventure host the Global Leadership Summit (GLS) through the Archdiocese of Omaha sometime in the near future.

The Fiscal letter that was sent out to all parishioners generated a wakeup call in regards to tithing. Right now, over 850 St. Bonaventure families do not tithe. Discussion was brought up about informational stewardship meetings for current and new parishioners.

Theresa Ingram (LOL) – The next LOL meeting is September 16th. Jodi Hefti will discuss social media and how people view it. The Thanksgiving bake sale is November 27th. An idea of casseroles being sold at the bake sale as a fund-raising event was presented to the group with positive feedback.

Fr. Mike (Project 2020) – Project 2020 is on schedule.

Moving forward the Parish Pastoral Council will meet every other month instead of monthly. The meeting day (Thursday) and time (5:30 pm) will stay the same. Our agenda will continue to focus on the Seven Areas of Parish Life, what is going well, what is needed, and how we can help each other with these ministries. Committee minutes from each area will be emailed to all members. In this way, there is continual collaboration with all involved. Ideas and suggestions can be presented at the PPC meetings for discussion. We have scheduled our next meeting for October 10th and our December meeting will be on the 5th. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Prayer person for our October 10th meeting is Tim Cumberland and December 5th is Theresa Ingram.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Mike

Next Meeting: October 10th at 5:30 pm Room 8 at St. Bonaventure Grade School

Meeting adjourned: 12:10 pm

Respectfully submitted: Linda Levos, PPC Secretary