

Parish Pastoral Council
Date: February 13, 2019

Present: Fr. Rob Cole, Bob Boyer, Darryl Lazar, Fran Peed, Jenna Taylor, Mike Balog, Mary Ann Haszko, Mary Humphrey, Martha Schwegler, Maria Bair, Joanmarie Kulinka, Jenny Scharf, Diane Westbrook

Absent: none

Opening:

- Meeting opened by Bob Boyer at 6 p.m.
- Scripture reading and prayer lead by Jenny Scharf.
- Maria Bair volunteered to lead scripture and prayer in March.

Old Business:

- Minutes for January 2019 meeting were approved.

- Church Women United: letter in response to Joyce Leotta was reviewed. Will be sent out this week.

- Parish Picnic: Fr. Rob reserved shelters 2&3 for September 22, 2019. CHRP weekends will reschedule so as not to conflict with the picnic. This scheduled weekend will also not interfere with the KOC breakfast.

Ministry Social:

There was a good turnout. Over 40 people attended. Good collaboration between participants. The "Ministry Corner" first feature received a positive response. Will continue. There was good feedback from the participants:

- Time & Talent weekend thought to be a positive event. Suggestions made were: target ministries that need help rather than all ministries; have the event quarterly focusing on a grouping of ministries rather than all to make it less overwhelming.
- Ministry Thank You Event: Fr. Rob explained that that particular event was discontinued for the following reasons-it had only occurred after the 11 a.m. Mass excluding those who attended other Masses; regular Mass attendees who were not in ministries were showing up with their children. Those in ministry were not really benefitting from the event. Discussion began on alternative means to recognize those involved in ministry such as a separate event of recognition and supporting ministry leads in recognizing participants. This will be looked at again in the future.
- Lack of printed "Ministry Guides". These are available in the welcome packets for new parishioners and on the Website. Ministry head were contacted by Carole Romanini in order to update the Website with accurate contact information. This has been newly done and replaces the old Guide on the Web. It will be requested to put this information in the Bulletin.
- Pulpit announcements for ministries: Fr. Rob explained that there was a pulpit announcement for Feed the Hungry because this is not a regular ministry and it was for a particular event. Otherwise there are no pulpit announcements. Bulletins are readily available with ministry information: ushers hand them out, they are in racks by the commons doors and on the website.

Ministry Updates

Donut Ministry: there is a very good response to this ministry but donuts are limited by the 11 a.m. Mass. Will look into the financial status of the ministry in order to consider increasing the amount of donuts.

New Business:

-Items that we're addressed to PPC members by parishioners:

Temperature of the Church-Feel the church is too cold. There is a need to keep the church at a certain temperature because of the piano, organ, and stenciling. Also, there have been instances where altar servers have passed out from being too warm. The temperature usually increases with every Mass. we do not have a 4-line system that would enable easily switching back and forth from heat to cooling it takes over 2 hours to do this with our 2-line system that was installed when the church was built. When the system ages out and needs replacement then it can be replaced with a 4-line system.

Cushions for the pews- there are a number of disadvantages to cushions including the fact that they are hard to clean, harbor germs, get soiled with spills, and it makes it hard for people to slide in the pews.

Deanery: The meeting was held at St. Gregory's. Attendees were representatives from various parishes. It is a means of communication with the Bishop. Mike Balog attended as did Fr. Rob. The appointed Dean was not in attendance so the event was lay lead. Main focus was to be Outreach. This is a new aspect from the Diocese. There is a learning curve in progress.

Discernment Process: It is time to start planning the discernment process for new members of the Council for next year. Darryl Lazar in charge of coordinating. Date chosen was June 8, 2019.

Pastor's Comments:

The Parish Pastoral Council follows the guidelines and policies put forth from the Diocese of Richmond.

The Diocesan Website has recently listed the names and status of those with credible accusations against them for abuse. These individuals are to be referred to by their Baptismal names. There is also a phone number listed for those who come forward with accusations.

The proper protocol for PPC members if the media shows up at Mass times: do not talk to the media, direct them to leave as it is private property, advise them to contact the Communication Director for the Diocese.

There are those who think this should be addressed from the pulpit. Mass is not a time to vent. Mass is a time to worship God. It is also a time when children are present.

We need to pray for healing for our Church as a whole. We need to discern how to move forward as a Church. We need to work to heal the divisions within our Church.

Bob Boyer stated that we need to pray for our priests, seminarians and deacons. We need to have faith that God will bring good out of the crises.

Maria Bair stated that there has been an increase in vocations to the Poor Clare nuns so they have need to build more cells. Fr. Rob stated there has been an increase in vocations at Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Crozet, Virginia. There is also a young man from our parish due to enter seminary in September. All agreed we need to pray, work, and trust in God.

Meeting closed with prayer and blessing by Fr. Rob at 6:55 p.m.

Next meeting: March 13, 2019

Minutes recorded and submitted by: Mary Ellen Roemer