

Christ the King Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes Dec. 05, 2017

Pastoral Council meeting was called to order in Classroom B at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, Dec. 05, 2017.

Council members present were: Fr. Healey, Patti Bakaur, Mary Becker, Francine Daggett, Matthew Donahue, Jack Donohue, Myranda Goveia, Deacon Harney, Dan Hughes, Brian Hyde, Mike Kondracki, Hannah Laird, Kathy Laird, Deacon Pierce, David Reilly, James Riley, Sandy Souza and Judy Warren.

The opening prayer was lead by Fr. Healey.

The minutes from the Oct. 03 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Kathy Laird informed council members our Children's Christmas Pageant would follow our 4:15 PM Christmas Eve Mass. The pageant is only about 15 minutes long. It should all flow well; hopefully those attending that mass will remain and support our children's efforts.

Liturgical Ministries:

Fr. Healey shared with council members his plans for a major church clean up within the next few months. He wants to involve the ushers, sacristans etc. to help clean and organize our storage space for parish liturgies. The area behind our reredos needs some reorganization. Father mentioned perhaps a closet could be build to help the appearance behind our reredos.

Fr. Healey has ordered some new/lighter weight, vestments. We received a donation from a parish family for this purchase. The new vestments are also washable and do not need to be sent to the cleaners.

Altar Servers:

New altar servers are in the process of being trained and others are being promoted to senior servers. Our present concern is our lack of servers at some of our later masses. Patti mentioned our former servers who are presently in college are more than welcome to serve a mass when they are home from college.

New Missals:

We presently have 114 dedication requests for our new missals. The new missals cover all three church cycles. There will be no need to replace them for many years. The average life of the hard cover missals is 10 years. The new missals do not go by page numbers, rather item numbers. Deacon Harney suggested perhaps we list the item numbers along with our hymn numbers to help people be able to find pages for readings. The suggestion was also made for a brief tutorial before mass begins to help people adjust to the change. It was questioned if a “cheat sheet” inside the plastic cover might help.

Ushers:

We are in desperate need of more ushers. If you do recruit someone to serve as an usher, please send the information along to Mike Kondracki. Parish council members were encouraged to help recruit new ushers.

Collections/Mass Attendance:

Mike reported mass attendance numbers were down for November. However, Fr. Healey reported our collections are not down. We take a count at all weekend masses; however, it is difficult to get accurate counts.

Pastoral Planning:

Fr. Healey shared some information he received from the parish surveys that were taken two years ago this spring. There will be some parishes twined or closed; it will be mostly our city parishes that will be affected. The Bishop hesitates to release information until he meets with diocesan priests in small

groups. All parishes will undergo a process of renewal...”Renew” or “Rebuild” are two programs. Father wasn’t sure if this will be decided by each parish or if the program will be chosen and done universally throughout the diocese. If each parish has opportunity to decide, then our parish council would meet and decide which program would work best for our parish.

Addition to parish complex:

Fr. Healey, Deacon Fantasia and Deacon Palanza have been working together on a plan to expand our Food Pantry, Thrift Shop and meeting space. This would involve a Capital Campaign if this plan is approved and moves forward. The diocese has a real estate person on staff and plans for what is needed will be reviewed. If approved, this plan would also allow for additional meeting space which is often needed.

Deacons:

Fr. Healey spoke to members about the possibility of having some of our men possible consider a vocation to the diaconate. Deacon Harney said our deacons have been asking a few men. It was suggested that our K of C council have someone speak about vocations...this has been done in the past.

Cell Tower Report:

The possibility of our leasing out space for a cell tower has been explored. However, this plan is not something that would work for us at this point in time.

Parish Council Development:

Fr. Healey mentioned he would like further development for the workings of our Parish Council. There are issues that need further discussion beyond the time frame of our regular meetings. Father would like for us to have smaller teams of between 5 – 9 people to meet and work further for a particular purpose. The team would then report back to the Parish Council members at the regular scheduled meetings.

Master Pastoral Plan – A team to discuss our mission and suggest possible strategies to better follow our mission ... another team to discuss our organizations. Team members would discuss what we are doing well and

what we need to improve. Team members would then compile their findings and report back to Parish Council. The team members would not all be members of the Parish Council; however, a Parish Council member would chair each group. The meetings would be set up at the convenience of the team members and availability of meeting space in our parish complex. The time frame for this process would be between February and June.

Evangelization – The diocese is asking us to reach out to lapse or inactive Catholics to begin evangelization. Another team needs to be established to discuss this process.

Fr. Healey asked council members to discern prayerfully and decide if they would want to serve on one of the teams. Fr. Healey will provide an outline for each team to work with. Hopefully the team members from our parish council will be set at our February meeting.

New Business:

Fr. Healey mentioned to council members if they had any topics they would like added to our agenda to please email Mary before scheduled meeting. The item will then be placed on the agenda.

Mike Kondracki mentioned a concern for security during our masses. There are some issues with people that have caused concern by our ushers. Jack asked if anything has been come from our diocese about concern for safety in our churches. Many council members agreed we need an expert in this area to consult with us. Deacon Harney mentioned an agency that specializes in helping to protect places of worship. Kathy Laird knows a retired Secret Service agent who now is on the Cape and works with security for companies. She will check to see if he would be able to meet with us. Kathy suggested having walkie talkies for our ushers; she said it would be an immediate way to allow our ushers to communicate, if necessary, during masses.

Jack Donohue stressed the need for us to take serious steps to heighten the security in our church. We do have a phone in our Usher's Room that a 911 call could be made from. It was suggested that we have a "panic button" installed in our sanctuary area...our celebrant, deacon and servers have a full view of the congregation. Fr. Healey mentioned we would look into obtaining some professional advice for security.

Patti Bakaur shared with council members some parishioners have expressed their concern with the new process of transferring hosts from our tabernacle to individual ciborium. There seems to be a continued need to educate our parishioners of the how/why this process has been implemented. It was suggested we have another teaching mass; this would help those who attend have a better idea of why things are done in certain way during the celebration of the mass. Kathy mentioned Fr. Healey would be having a teaching mass for our Confirmation class. We will schedule the mass and publish in the bulletin.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.