

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 5, 2013

ATTENDEES: Robin Black-Rubenstein, Becky Bradley, Deacon Dan Corbett, Bill Doerr, Emily Gates, Mimi Hunter, Jim Jatcko, Georgann Lautner, Sue Papajcik, and Mary Westerhold.

ABSENT: Maria Carrion, Adam Milburn, and Marisa Nieto.

Scripture for the 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time was read and discussed. The first reading from 2Maccabees talks of the seven brothers, with their mother, who are forced to violate God's law. In their efforts to resist, they chose martyrdom—"It is my choice to die at the hands of men with the hope God gives of being raised up by him; but for you, there will be no resurrection to life." The second reading, Paul instructs the Thessalonians to allow ". . . the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the endurance of Christ." In the Luke's Gospel, the Sadducees attempt to trap Jesus with a question regarding the resurrection and the afterlife—a concept they denied. Jesus made a distinction between "this age" and the "coming age" and God, who knows no time. "He is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive."

In the Book of Maccabees, Father Jeff explained, the Jewish people were just beginning to develop a belief in the resurrection. Mimi reflected on the first reading and wondered is there anything she believes in strongly enough to withstand torture rather than give in and go against her convictions. Father talked about the progression of the view of the resurrection through the readings. Early concepts are more earthly as we believe we will be reunited with family and friends after death. Then in the Gospel Jesus speaks of a divine resurrection where we will bask in the love of God. This love is so great that it is sometimes difficult if not impossible to comprehend. Robin spoke about the bereavement group that met earlier today. They talked about seeing loved ones in heaven when in reality our focus will be on God. Mimi said she thinks the reason we look forward to seeing and being with our loved ones who have gone before us is because it is a familiar love. Although we may love God, we can only imagine God's love for us in familiar terms. To our amazement, we will discover someday how great His love truly is!

We also discussed the latest announcements from our new Pope. He certainly has a new approach to things. He wants to collect the thoughts of the modern family and community of faith by means of a survey to find out what people think about some the hot topics facing the Church today. The responses will hopefully be useful in teaching the Church how to pastor in the modern world. He certainly has made some pretty provocative statements and moves early in his Papacy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUCTION RESULTS: Sue reported the two super-secret auctions brought in \$1000 for the reserved parking space and \$750 for the reserved pew. That took the total for the auction over \$39,000. There is some discussion about moving the venue for the auction since attendance was down by 70 people. There were also fewer items to bid on so bidding was less confusing. They seemed to get better bids.

FMCHS CAMPAIGN UPDATES: We already have \$640,000 from 20 donors. Representatives from the campaign will speak at all the Masses this weekend and give a spiel on the advantages of Catholic education K-12. It was mentioned that some of us have talked to people from other parishes, and they

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FMCHS CAMPAIGN UPDATES: (continued)

are not aware of the campaign for FMCHS. Father explained that we are the pilot parish. Some want to know why we don't use existing buildings and convert them into a high school. Some have said they won't contribute because they were "promised" a new grade school for St. Boniface and all the money collected went to the new church. Father made it clear that if we don't meet our goals in this campaign—if we don't have enough to break ground and finish the project—the money collected will go into a savings account for McGivney and McGivney only. That money will not be used for anything else. Father also reported that there are already 14 kids signed up for the 2014 school year.

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE: Thanksgiving Eve Mass will be at 6:45pm

Christmas Eve Masses will be at 4:15 pm and 10:15 pm

Christmas Day Mass will be at 8:15am

There will be a 6:15 pm Christmas Eve Spanish Mass only if Father Dave is available. If he isn't available, there will be no 6:15 pm Mass.

REPORTS

SOCIAL JUSTICE: Robin made an on-line survey available to parishioners in regards to Social Justice. She advertised it in the bulletin and was also able to email the invitation to about 700 parishioners. There were also paper copies available in the church lobby. She received about 60 responses. Peoples' knowledge of Social Justice varied, and most were favorable to do more. Robin and Deacon Dan will look more closely at the responses to see where we go from here.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Robin reported that Longing for the Holy and Psalms groups have 1 and 2 weeks to go, respectively. Both will restart after the first of the year.

She is considering offering Father Robert Baron's course on the New Evangelization.

RCIA is very full and has a good, inquisitive group.

The After Care, grief support, groups met today. She had three people at the morning session and one at the evening session. She said things went well.

She reported she has been active with the visitation ministry and has been offering communion services at nursing homes.

Robin only received two RSVPs and, as a result, cancelled the luncheon for new parishioners. She plans to send the invitations out earlier and try to have another luncheon later, in January.

She reported that there was a small crowd for Theology on Tap. This was probably due to the distraction of a certain ball game. The November meeting will be at Wang Gang at which time they will discuss and plan the spring line up. They will also talk about doing some type of service project. Father Jeff said he would like to see them help out at the St. Nicholas Breakfast.

Mary mentioned if we could have a group like Theology on Tap for those 35 and older.

We are all amazed at how much Robin has started, revitalized, and accomplished in her last few months on the job. We are so very fortunate to have her here!

BUSINESS

PARISH MISSION UPDATES: The Mission Committee met and had a few items for us to resolve. It was decided that the lobby and plaza lobby would be used for fellowship—not the chapel. For the memento of the Mission, we decided on a laminated prayer card. The committee will ask the mission priest for an appropriate prayer. The committee asked that we come up with a name—a brand—for the Mission. Mimi suggested Ready, Set, Go which quick evolved into Ready, Set, Grow . . . individually, spiritually, communally. Since RCIA will be attending at least the Monday night session of the Mission, Father will adjust his schedule to discuss the Eucharist with them the following week.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIG CHURCH

Social Committee: Becky reported that the caterer's price was just about cut in half by taking the number down to 150 people and with the exclusions we talked about at the last meeting. We will have wine and beer. Sue said there is plenty of marguerita mix left. Kasey Johnnes will be using the decorations from the auction. The music is lined up. Mary said people were happy to see the insert in the bulletin stating the schedule for the celebration. Also, we will be showing the video of the dedication in the lobby before and after Masses and have a poster with the schedule of events next to it for a little more advertisement. A full schedule of the week's events will be in the newspaper.

Spiritual Committee: Jill and Father have been discussing the liturgy. The school will be participating in the Eucharistic Adoration. The classes will take turns each hour. Robin is encouraging new parishioners to attend the tour of the church. We will give away ornaments, key chains, and other mementos from past years.

Marketing: As mentioned before, the schedule of events has been on a flyer in the bulletin. Mary is getting a power point presentation together as well as taking care of preparing the dedication video.

OTHER BUSINESS

Father Jeff announced: **Mary of Nazareth—the Movie at the Wildey** ~ an epic new motion picture on the life of Mary, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus will be shown at the Wildey on Sunday, December 1st at 1 PM and 4 PM. Tickets for this special showing must be purchased in advance and can be purchased at the Parish Office. Tickets will not be sold at the Wildey. Tickets are \$10 adult, \$5 child, or \$25 family. Seating for both showings is limited (326 seats)

We will be putting up the Lucy Lights on Thursday, December 12th. Please pray for a calm and mild December day!

We ended our meeting with a prayer to our Holy Mother.

Our next meeting will be in January so everyone have a safe, happy, merry and, most of all, blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays!!

Respectfully submitted by
Georgann Lautner