

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

ATTENDEES: Father Jeff Goeckner, Robin Black-Rubenstein, Deacon Dan Corbett, Lacey Gelsing, Rich Hahn, Jim Jatcko, Arthur Langston, Georgann Lautner, Marisa Nieto, Clyde Nossner, Lauren Serfas, and Nate Vuagniaux.

ABSENT: Maria Carrion, Linda Daniels, Jeff Litterst, and Mary Westerhold.

Father Jeff acknowledged our short-timers, Jim Jatcko whose 3-year term has ended and is moving on to other things, and Lauren Serfas who is off to college.

Our meeting opened with Rich reading the Gospel from Luke for the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Lauren read the reflection. In this abbreviated version of the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the woman who has lost one of ten coins. She stops everything to search for it and when she finds it calls friends and neighbors to rejoice with her because what was lost had been found. Jesus compares this to the rejoicing among the angels over one sinner who repents. This Gospel begins with the lost lamb and the shepherd who leaves the others to find the one, and ends with the parable of the Prodigal Son.

The reflection compares this reading to “lost and found” receptacles. Some items are collected while others go unclaimed. Jesus tells us that God never forgets or leaves “unclaimed” the lost. The reflection asks if we “share in the divine rejoicing over sinners who repent. Let us pray for hearts more like that of the searching shepherd and persistent woman; in other words, the heart of Christ.”

(Sunday Prayer for Catholics 2016, LTP)

Father asked if we had ever looked in our Lost and Found drawer in the Church. There is so much stuff that goes unclaimed. It occasionally gets cleaned out and useable items are sent to Goodwill. Deacon Dan talked about how at the end of the school year the local schools take their unclaimed items to the GlenEd Pantry. Kids can leave behind some pretty high end things.

This Gospel, Father said, is all about mercy. There has been an up-tick in the reconciliation room this past year and as our Jubilee Year of Mercy comes to an end in a couple of months. Many haven't been in years. Rejoice! It's been a good year for this confessor!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GO GREEN WEEKEND is September 10/11. Our Stewardship Council will be promoting Electronic Giving before Masses.

ACSA APPEAL is the weekend of September 10/11. Randy Uebinger, the Appeal Director, will speak after the homily at all Masses about the benefits of ACSA.

YOUTH MINISTER INTRODUCTION. Jeremy Kovarik will be introduced after all Masses the weekend of September 10/11.

RCIA/RCIC begins on Monday, September 12 at 6:30 PM

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING. September 14 at 6:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

HEROIC CATHOLIC MANHOOD SEMINAR. Saturday, September 17 at 9 AM to 4 PM in the Oak Room. Father mentioned that about 40 people have signed up for this program which is intended for 250. Father asked our Pastoral Council men to please register and bring their sons and to also invite other men to come.

RED MASS with Bishop Paprocki will be held at St. Boniface Church on Sunday, September 18 at the 10:15 AM Mass.

PROSPER ADVISING PRESENTATION. This will be held in the Oak Room, Monday, September 19 at 6:30. This is a fundraising organization that will talk about how they can help us get the funds we need to repair the Chapel, the church, ramps, and address the needs of the school, parking, green space and so much more. Pastoral Council, STB Planning Commission, Finance Council, and Pastor's Cabinet are all urged to attend this meeting.

PARTY ON THE PLAZA. This party for the Parish will be Saturday, September 24 at 5:15 PM. (More on this event later in the minutes)

CATHOLIC RADIO. FMCHS will be guests on WRYT AM1080 on September 26 at 10-11AM.
St. Boniface Parish and School will be guests on WRYT AM1080 on September 30 at 10-11AM.

RESPECT LIFE MASS. This will be October 1 at Holy Family Church in Granite City. The event will begin with Mass followed by a procession to Hope Clinic. The Rosary will be prayed during the procession. This will be followed by a luncheon and speaker. Deacon Dan reported that anyone unable to participate in the procession can remain at the church and pray the Rosary.

ASPIRANT ASSIGNMENT. Clyde announced that he has been assign to the Pastor of St. Boniface Parish as a Deacon Aspirant—Deacon Candidate. He is happy to be here and to serve.

BUSINESS

COUNCIL RETIREMENTS AND REPLACEMENTS

As mentioned before, Jim has completed his 3-year term on Pastoral Council and is moving on to other things.

Lauren will be leaving soon for California to attend college. On behalf of the Council, Father expressed his appreciation for her youthful insight. She will be missed. We are grateful for her service and fine representation of our youth from this parish. She has our prayers. Lauren said she would keep St. B in her prayers, too.

Father has asked Nathan Dammerich, a sophomore at FMCHS, to fill Lauren's seat on the Council. No replacement has been found, yet, for Jim.

REFRESHED PARISH WEBSITE AND PARISH SCHOOL WEBSITE

John Lednicky, our tech specialist, and Lisa Rolves from STB Planning Commission Communications Committee have been working on a new website for the parish and hope to roll it out soon.

Lisa will be working with Kelly Bishop on a website for the school, which currently doesn't have one.

BUSINESS (continued)

FORMED RELEASE

This program will be released to parishioners with the mailing of the new Parish Stewardship Directory. A letter explaining *Formed* will be sent along with a convenient business card that can be easily carried in a wallet or hung on a bulletin board with the passcode.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT—Nate Vuagniaux

- September 10/11. Go Green weekend.

- September 18. Representatives from the Wichita Diocese will be in Springfield to present their Stewardship model. Our Stewardship Council is way ahead of the Springfield Diocese in regards to the development of stewardship programs and initiatives. Father commended this group for doing such a fantastic job!

- September 24/25. 2016 APPEAL THEME REVEAL. The theme is “A Place of Grace.” An aerial view of the church was taken with a drone. With that photo, an 18’-20’ tall replica of the steeple will be made. There will be a blue screen behind with ribbons where people can attach stars with the graces they have received during this Jubilee Year of Mercy—much like the Giving Tree last year.

- October 1/2. Commitment forms will be distributed.

- Weekends of October 15/16 and October 23/24, and October 31/November 1. Witness talks at all Masses.

- November 5/6. Commitment Weekend.

The week of September 19th--a week before our Party on the Plaza--the parish will mail the parish stewardship directory, the *Formed* invitation and card, a stewardship brochure--which has a commitment form—along with a letter explaining the mailing.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION—Robin Black-Rubenstein

Theology Uncorked Speaker Series. All adults are welcome.

- Thursday, September 22nd. 6:30-8:30 PM in the Oak Room with Paul Coutinho
 - Mr. Coutinho is an internationally recognized scholar and author. The Adult Faith Formation Committee was concerned with how we can stay positive in this world where there is so much darkness. This speaker, Robin said, is profound but speaks in down to earth language. His books are easy reads. Some clips are available on Facebook.
- Thursday, October 20th. 6:30-8:30 PM in the Oak Room. What’s My Order?
 - This will be a Q & A panel discussion with representatives from Secular Franciscans, Secular Carmelites, vowed religious, deacons, and others
- Late November-Early December. Father Dave Uribe will talk about Mary.

BUSINESS (continued)

ADULT FAITH FORMATION—Robin Black-Rubenstein

Bishop Robert Barron's Seven Deadly Sins and Seven Lively Virtues.

- 8 week series to meet on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:00PM from September 17-November 29 (will not meet on October 4 or November 1), OR will meet on Thursdays mornings 8:45—10:15AM, October 6-December 1 (will not meet on November 24).
- Cost: \$15 for the book.
- “Bishop Barron shows us how to counteract the seven sinful patterns through a conscious process of opposition, which are the ‘seven lively virtues’. The seven lively virtues offer antidotes to each sin and help set us on the right path to healing and happiness.” (*Evergreen*, September 10/11, 2016)

Father reminded her to get this information to Lisa Rolves so she can put this on our website, too.

Women of Mercy. Robin was asked by Vicky Compton and Catholic Relief Services for St. Boniface to form a pilot group. This small prayer group will have specific prayer intentions and will be active in October, November, and December. If we know women who would be interested in being in this pilot group we should let Robin know.

Youth Ministry. Father stated that Robin will be Jeremy Kovarik's supervisor. Robin has experience with youth ministry, too. Pray for this group as we give it another try.

PARTY ON THE PLAZA

This event will be held Saturday, September 24 after the 4:15 PM Mass. The parish will provide BBQ, chips, veggies, cookies, water, coolers of ice and a “share” cooler. BYOB. People are invited to bring their own side dishes to share with their family and friends. They are asked to bring lawn chairs and games for the kids. STB Frequent Flyers will provide Korn Hole toss and washer toss games. The music will be provided by Ryan Hentz and will begin at 6 PM. All are welcome.

This is a coordinated event planned and presented by Pastoral Council and the Stewardship Council Celebration Committee. Much of the work is being done by the SCCC, and our Council is needed to help set up on that Saturday morning around 10 AM and the tear-down at the end of the evening. The SCCC will also be putting RSVP's in the pews to help get an idea of how much food to order. Father said to plan on 200 people. Marissa will make sure the Hispanic community knows about this event.

We plan to put the spotlights in the trees on the plaza. Father will ask Bill to bring the lights and extension cords down from the Chapel balcony.

MINISTRY FAIR

Father stressed that this is an event hosted and planned by the Pastoral Council and the Parish office. Since it is over a month away, we will wait to discuss this at our next meeting.

BUSINESS (continued)

NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY

Robin has been working with Benna Denué and Judy Frank in the parish office in updating our New Parishioner Registration/Update Parishioner Information Form. With their suggestions along input from some of the Pastoral Council members, a copy of the revised form was presented for discussion. A copy is also attached to these minutes.

The items in **red** are changes that were discussed.

- St. Boniface Catholic **Parish** –we will keep St Boniface **Church**.
- **“Today’s Date”** will be added to the front of the form.
- Permission to **“text”** will be added on the Cell Phone line.
- **“Adult Children (Living away from home)”**. It was suggested we eliminate this section, but Father Jeff uses this. It will remain.
- In the “Office Use Only” section it was suggested that we remove **“registration date”**, but Father explained that is the date the information is actually entered into our system. So, it too will remain.

Some sentences were suggested to be added:

- **“Is there anything else you would like to share, or do you have any questions about the Parish?”**
- It was decided that this was too wordy and only the second half—“Do you have any questions about the Parish?” will remain.
- **“Do you have a preferred method of contact?”** It was decided not to use this because we really don’t need permission to e-mail, and we are asking permission to text on the front of the form.
- **“Would you prefer to make your parish contributions...”** or “Would you prefer to make your contributions through envelopes? _____ or electronic giving _____?” It was decided to use the latter—“...make you contributions”.

Other questions like, “How did you serve in your last parish?” will somehow be incorporated in the initial phone contact. Robin will develop some of these questions in the mentor form that will be filled out during the initial phone call. At that time she will also ask if the new member would like to be contacted by the Welcoming Committee. Robin also mentioned that we need someone from the Spanish Community to contact our new Spanish speaking members. Marissa said she could help out in that regard.

We plan to roll this out at the Ministry Fair and sign up volunteers to our Hospitality Ministry who are willing to mentor new members.

Father shared his Griffin Pride. The cover over this weekend’s bulletin shows the FMCHS student body from five years ago and a picture of the current student body. My, how their numbers have grown!

This writer reported that work progresses on our outdoor Nativity set. Detail work should begin in the next couple of weeks. Father received a call from Matt. In their conversation Matt said he has a new job—better than the one he had before—and is ready to pay for the repairs to the baby Jesus statue as soon as they are completed. Repentance and mercy....

Father once again thanked Jim and Lauren for their service on the Council.

He ended the meeting with a Hail Mary.

Our next meeting is October 4 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by
Georgann Lautner