

**St. John Fisher Pastoral Council Meeting  
December 7, 2016**

**Present:** Msgr. David A. Sork, Hanan Tanios, Marianne Canetti, Mac Chapman, Rick Creed, Frank Lee, Carl Mossberg, Bill Munday, Jeanne Murphy, Bob Rapoza, Katelyn Parker, Onyi Onyeador, Gayle Plecha, and Katie Dante as the staff representative

**Absent:** Beverly Beatty, Megan Tilles

**Guests:** Jeanne Leo (Women's Council) and Paul Leo (Seekers)

Msgr. Sork opened the meeting at 7:01 pm and welcomed the guests.

The Council prayed the First 15 led by Marianne Canetti.

**Pastor-Parish Life (Msgr. Sork)**

**Treasure Commitment Weekend**

Gayle reported that everything went smoothly for Treasure Commitment weekend on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> thanks to the ushers and others who helped collect 400 commitment cards. The Parish Office is now conducting the follow-up process with those parishioners who have given in the past, so they hope to receive even more cards.

**Blessing of the Organ and Concert**

Bishop Solis will be at SJF on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:45 PM to bless the new organ. The Advent concert will follow immediately at 3:00 PM. The organ is not to be used for liturgical purposes until it has been blessed. Msgr. Sork asked Pastoral Council to help staff a table and pass out programs at the concert. They anticipate a good turnout.

**Advent Activities**

Giving Tree – Frank Lee reported that the first gift distribution was Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. His team arrived at 4:30 PM to begin sorting the gifts that had been stored from the collections of the previous weekends. The charities arrived at 7:00 PM and were instructed that “everything must go”. All the gifts were collected within three minutes. Msgr. Sork thanked Frank for all his work. Frank said the support from the parish is overwhelming. The next collection date for the agencies is Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is on December 12<sup>th</sup> at the 5:15 PM Mass followed by a reception in Barrett Hall.

Simbang Gabi is on December 17<sup>th</sup> at the 5:00 PM Mass followed by a reception and celebration in Barrett Hall. Members of the Simbang Gabi committee will be distributing tickets after all Masses this weekend. The event is free, but a ticket is required.

Candlelight Mass – Katie reported that this event is always on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent at the 5:00 PM Mass. The teens volunteer to be candle bearers and ministers of the Liturgical movement.

The Advent Penance Service is on Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. There will be extra priests to hear confessions. SJF tries to get as many priests as possible in order to hear confession in a timely manner.

### **Evaluation of the Pastoral Plan Objectives**

Msgr. Sork asked Pastoral Council to look at Objectives 3, 4 and 5 from the Pastoral Plan and evaluate the progress of each one.

*# 3 – We will expand activities for high school and junior high.* Katie reported that XLT was a very successful event held on November 20<sup>th</sup> for high school students. It included a keynote speaker, music, prayerful meditation, adoration of the Eucharist and the opportunity for confession. A high school bible study started in November. This objective is still in progress.

*#4 – We will strive to meet the needs of our youth and to increase Teen Mass attendance by: a. Re-establishing the Teen Liturgy Planning Team for Sunday 5 pm Mass to gear the homily towards high school students. b. Establishing a Teen Music group to support Youth Ministry programs.* Katie, Grant and Fr. Francis have met a few times. This objective is still in progress.

*#5 – We will promote all future events at the parish in a more cohesive manner including but not limited to a published calendar in the bulletin and on the website.* The calendar on the website has improved and includes more events. The Communications Committee is just beginning to work on the calendar for the bulletin. This objective is still in progress.

### **Mass Intentions**

Gayle asked for input from Pastoral Council regarding possible changes to the process and suggested donation for Mass Intention cards. Cards are currently \$10 each and people can request as many Mass Intention cards as they want. This causes the calendar to fill up quickly, and so the Mass Intentions are being scheduled six to eight months in advance. The plan is to give more people an opportunity to have a Mass said for a loved one. It was suggested to raise the suggested donation to \$20 per Mass card and limit the number to one intention per name and two intentions per person per day, and only open up the calendar for six months at a time. Gayle will bring these suggestions to the administrative staff meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>. It was recommended to publish the changes in the bulletin with an explanation.

### **Chair/Vice-Chair**

#### **Approval of November Minutes**

Hanan Tanios asked for corrections to the November minutes. Hearing none, Rick Creed moved to approve the November minutes as presented. Bob Rapoza seconded. The minutes were approved.

### **Parish Activities Evaluation Metrics**

At the last Pastoral Council meeting it was suggested to test out the survey process at the Advent concert; however, the subcommittee decided to slow the process down in order to make sure that the components are correct. Bill Munday asked for ideas to rate the events (i.e. a scale of 1 to 5 or Poor to Good or Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree). They would like to keep it as simple as possible so people will take the time to complete the surveys. It should also be easy to process so it doesn't become a burden to whoever handles the results. The subcommittee will meet again and then meet with Pastoral Staff to find out what questions they would like on the survey. There should be no more than five questions including the overall experience, an open-ended area for feedback and a couple specific questions. The goal is to find out about participation, the quality of the event and parishioners' experience at the event. Survey cards should be available for people to complete at the event and then drop in one of the ballot boxes, and there could be a QR code that can be scanned and linked to the survey. A link to the survey could also be posted on the SJF website. The staff will be the ones to decide the metric to be used for their particular events. A launch date of February or March may be possible.

### **Communication Committee Report and Survey on SJF Bulletin**

The Communication Committee would like to refresh the bulletin as part of Objective #5 of the Pastoral Plan. The bulletin is already very good, but could use some updating. Keith Kamholz from the Communication Committee handed out a survey to all members of Pastoral Council to complete since they are the representatives of the parish. Gayle already gave the survey to Pastoral Staff. Keith invited members of Pastoral Council to join the committee. He collected all the completed surveys.

### **PC Presence at the Advent Concert**

Pastoral Council was asked to hand out programs and the "Welcome" postcards at the Advent concert on Sunday. Grant would really appreciate the help. Members were asked to arrive around 2:00/2:15 PM.

### **Other**

- A suggestion was made to add a section to the bulletin with a sentence or two containing medical and dental health tips.
- A parishioner questioned whether or not Catholics should participate in yoga. Is it a form of exercise or a practice of a religion?
- The organ will be used at the 10:45 AM and 12:30 PM Masses, but someone suggested that it should be played during the 9:00 AM Mass since that Mass has livestreaming.

The meeting was concluded at 9:00 PM with the prayer of St. John Fisher.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Acherman



## Response to Other Items Raised at PC Meeting in December

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December 13, 2016

Greetings fellow PC Members,

Thank you to all PC Members who brought up the issues/concerns below. Please feel free to pass on the responses to the parishioners who brought them to your attention.

Hanan Tanios  
Chair  
SJF Pastoral Council 2016-2017

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**A suggestion was made to add a section to the bulletin with a sentence or two containing medical and dental health tips.** This suggestion will be forwarded to the communication committee.

**A parishioner questioned whether Catholics should participate in yoga. Is it a form of exercise or a practice of a religion?** Monsignor states that this is a form of exercise and not a practice of religion.

**The organ will be used at the 10:45 AM and 12:30 PM Masses, it was suggested that it should be played during the 9:00 AM Mass since that Mass has livestreaming.** This suggestion will be forwarded to the Music Ministry.