

St. John Fisher Pastoral Council Meeting September 16, 2017

Present: Msgr. David A. Sork, Beverly Beatty (chair), Frank Lee (vice-chair), Joe Arroyo, Marianne Canetti, Jack Creeden, Bill Munday, Chris Ratliff, Kelly Tramontin, Onyi Onyeador (youth rep.), Andrew Leung, (youth alt.), and Gayle Plecha.

Absent: Mac Chapman, Carl Mossberg, Megan Tilles

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

The Council prayed the First 15 led by Beverly Beatty during the Pastoral Council Orientation portion of the meeting.

Msgr. Sork opened the meeting at 1:43 pm and welcomed the guests.

Pastor-Parish Life (Msgr. Sork)

Objectives of Pastoral Plan 2017-18

Msgr. Sork stated that the objectives of the Pastoral Plan are done in a collaborative effort with the Pastoral Staff and the Pastoral Planning Committee. The Pastoral Planning Committee is made up of past and present members of Pastoral Council. The five objectives were recommended to the Pastoral Council. A discussion ensued at the August Pastoral Council meeting and some changes were suggested. These suggestions were reviewed by Pastoral Staff, and they made two changes. They rewrote Objective #3 to recognize the Confirmation program by changing the curriculum and offering a retreat for parents of Confirmation candidates. Objective #5 was changed from "all aspects of Parish life" to "in a variety of ways". Msgr. Sork asked for approval of the revised objectives of the Pastoral Plan. Beverly Beatty read the five objectives and asked for a vote. The 2017-18 objectives of the Pastoral Plan were approved. Kelly Tramontin asked if the objectives are checked periodically for progress. Msgr. Sork informed her that the agenda items of the Pastoral Council meetings are designed to evaluate the objectives throughout the year.

Ministry of Welcome

Msgr. Sork asked for ideas on how SJF can become a more welcoming parish. Msgr. Sork said he is always outside church greeting people prior to the start of Mass. He would like to have a group designated to welcome people to Mass. Marianne Canetti shared that she had the opportunity to stand outside Mass welcoming people for several weekends, and she really enjoyed the experience. Kelly Tramontin mentioned that the song sheets that the teens hand out prior to the start of the teen Mass at 5:00 PM on Sundays are a good way to ensure human contact. New members are recognized during Mass once a month, and a suggestion was made to have Pastoral Council members take notice of those new members and try to make contact with them after Mass. The priests already ask parishioners to introduce themselves to someone they don't know. Msgr. Sork asked Pastoral Council to keep thinking of ways to be more welcoming and give their ideas to Beverly Beatty. Paul Leo, representative for the Seekers, shared that he looks forward to the 10:45 AM Mass because Ken Dyda is

always very welcoming. Msgr. Sork said we need more people like him.

Chair/Vice-Chair

Approval of August Minutes

Frank Lee asked for corrections to the August minutes. Hearing none, Bill Munday moved to approve the August minutes as presented. Marianne Canetti seconded. The minutes were approved.

Implementation of Synod on the Family

A Synod on the Family was held in San Diego in October 2016 following Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation, *The Joy of Love* in May 2016. At the August meeting Hanan Tanios passed out an article on what the Diocese of San Diego did to implement what was done in Rome. Mac Chapman, Megan Tilles and Beverly Beatty volunteered at the August meeting to be on a subcommittee to survey the parishioners to learn how to minister to them and advise Msgr. Sork and Pastoral Council on what would work for SJF.

St. John's Seminary Annual Awards Gala

Gayle Plecha said that Msgr. Sork and three other priests are being honored as distinguished alumni of St. John's Seminary at their Annual Awards Gala on September 23rd. This is a major fundraiser for St. John's Seminary. The majority of the ticket price is a tax deductible donation to the seminary. The event includes cocktails, dinner and the ceremony at 6:00 PM on the cathedral plaza.

Master Schedule 2017-18

Beverly Beatty asked everyone to open their white binders and look at the master schedule for 2017-18. Each person has been assigned to do the First 15 at a Pastoral Council meeting. If the assigned person is unable to attend their assigned meeting, he/she should trade with another member. Beverly distributed guidelines for preparing the First 15. PC members should email Beverly with any questions they may have. Jack Creeden asked about the February Formation session date. The date is still to be determined. Beverly then asked each member to check the roster for accuracy. Prior to each meeting members will be provided with the previous month's meeting minutes, the agenda and the First 15. Each member should read the minutes prior to coming to the meeting.

Other

- A suggestion was made to merge the Divorce and Beyond Ministry with the Social Singles (60+) Ministry.
 - This would not work as the Divorce Ministry is a support group and workshop type of format whereas the Social Singles (60+) Ministry is a social group and includes people who have never married or are widowed in addition to those who are divorced.
- Several elderly parishioners have asked about some type of ministry for senior citizens such as the Senior Connections that used to exist at the parish. They

said they miss the interaction and social activities. This is one group that may be underrepresented and underserved.

- Bill Munday asked for feedback on the Knights of Columbus BBQ a few weeks ago. This was a fundraiser for St. John's Seminary. From the Knights of Columbus perspective it went very well, and they raised more money than they do from their pancake breakfasts.
- Marianne Canetti asked how the new format for requesting Mass Intentions was going.
 - Gayle Plecha reported that the new procedures that were implemented at the recommendation of the Pastoral Council include: parishioners can only request two Mass intentions per visit, the suggested stipend for each Mass intention is now \$20 instead of \$10, and the parish office will not book Masses more than six months in advance. The changes in the process seem to be well received and have helped with the availability of Masses. Another option offered to parishioners is Msgr. Gilb, who will take Mass intentions on a daily basis for his Masses at Little Sisters of the Poor. Parishioners can also write in as many names as they wish in the Mass Book of Intentions, which is located inside the church. Msgr. Sork said Canon Law states that there can be no more than one intention per Mass.

The meeting was concluded at 2:22 PM with the Prayer of St. John Fisher Parish.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Acherman