

St. John Fisher Pastoral Council Meeting February 6, 2019

Present: Msgr. David A. Sork, Beverly Beatty (chair), Bill Munday (vice-chair), Joe Arroyo, Dana Hargrave, Carl Mossberg, Chris Ratliff, Bill Smith, Megan Tilles, Kelly Tramontin, Dave Williams, Roya Adli (youth rep.), Gayle Plecha, and Grant Hungerford as the staff representative.

Absent: Steve Izuno

Guests:

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

The Council prayed the First 15 led by Megan Tilles.

Pastor-Parish Life (Msgr. Sork)

Upcoming Lent Activities

- **Shrove Tuesday** – Women’s Council Annual Shrove Tuesday Luncheon is March 5th. The guest speaker is Msgr. Kevin Kostelnik, former Associate Pastor at SJF. The cost is \$25.00 per person and men are welcomed as well.
- **Ash Wednesday** – March 6th – Mass will be offered at 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM and 5:15 PM; Liturgy of the Word at 4:00 PM and 7:30 PM. There will be plenty of opportunity to receive ashes.
- **Mass Schedule** – During Lent a 6:30 AM Mass will be added Monday-Friday.
- **Teen Speaker/Musician** – The Youth Ministry is hosting an event with Joe Melendrez on March 10th. He is also a speaker on Youth Day at R.E. Congress.
- **Lenten Soup Suppers** – Every Friday from March 8 – April 12 a different ministry will host the soup supper in the Auditorium. Pastoral Council will host on March 22nd. Beverly Beatty has a sign-up sheet for volunteers.
- **Festival of Faith with Roy Petitfils** – He will speak at all the Masses on March 30/31 to encourage people to attend. The event will be March 31, April 1 and April 2 with dinner at 6:00 PM and the speaker at 7:00 PM
- **Lenten Concert** – Grant Hungerford reported that choir will perform the Lenten and Easter portions of Handel’s Messiah on April 7th at 3:00 PM. There will be an organ recital featuring Ty Woodward on March 31st at 3:00 PM and another organ recital performed by Sal Soria, the organist from the Cathedral, on May 26th at 3:00 PM. On the first Friday of Lent, which is March 8th, the choir will sing the Passion at 7:00 PM followed by the Stations of the Cross.

(Agenda addition) First 15

Grant Hungerford asked if the First 15 could be revised to give it a fresh look and make it more succinct. SJF has been doing it for a long time and all parish groups were supposed to start their meetings with it, but not all are doing it.

(Agenda addition) Capital Campaign

Msgr. Sork reported that Pastoral Staff met with the original architect to share their needs for the original master plan and asked her to come up with some suggestions. She will present a plan and estimated cost. Pastoral Council will get to see that plan and then discern whether or not to go ahead with it and to what extent. This is still a work in progress and hopefully by the next meeting there will be more specific plans however, at this point there is nothing concrete to show. Bill Munday was looking on the archdiocese website and noticed there was an element beyond the capital infrastructure. There is an endowment for monies to be available in the future for other projects somewhat like a reserve fund which would help with the needs of the church five to ten years from now. Msgr. Sork said right now they are focusing on the infrastructure. Gayle Plecha said the church maintains three investment pool accounts which fund the capital expenses in lieu of an endowment fund.

Chair/Vice-Chair

Approval of January Minutes

Bill Munday asked for corrections to January minutes. Hearing none, Bill Smith moved to approve the January minutes as presented. Chris Ratliff seconded. The minutes were approved.

Campus Signage

Beverly Beatty reminded everyone about the tour of the campus at the last meeting, and said the notes are in the minutes on page 3. Msgr. Sork said he doesn't want these suggestions to just sit there. He expects Pastoral Council to make recommendations tonight.

- Carl Mossberg recommended that a light be placed at the entrance to the Crest Driveway as it is very difficult to see it at night.
- Bill Munday liked Dave Williams' suggestion of backlighting the maps on the campus.
- Beverly Beatty recommended putting "Gym" on the gymnasium.
- Chris Ratliff said the multipurpose room and the auditorium names do not clearly indicate what they are and where they are located. He also said the signage should reflect where the room is located. Dave Williams suggested just putting "church" in front of multipurpose room so people know that it's located in the church.
- Joe Arroyo said the sign for the elevator is too small.
- Chris Ratliff requested adding reflective disks in the center of both driveways.
- Msgr. Sork said that larger lettering is needed on the signs. Gayle Plecha will ask the architect for a standardized lettering that matches the front of the church.

- Gayle Plecha said they were only allowed one major sign at the intersection of Crest and Crenshaw so the school name could not be listed there, but the signs are still on the cinderblock walls at each driveway.
- Dana Hargrave requested a list of all the items being addressed to make it easier to discuss.

Update on Development of New 5-Year Goals for the Pastoral Plan

Objective 1- “We will develop new goals or refine existing goals for the 5-year Pastoral Plan.” Dave Williams reported that CARA received the signed letter of agreement and payment, so they now have access to all of the necessary survey information. They will meet again to pare down what will be on the survey.

Bill Munday said CARA would let them know the 90/95 questions typically used. The only caveat is that the 90/95 questions are in generic language. They need to go through them to make sure they use the language of SJF.

Msgr. Sork said Pastoral Staff decided that the weekend of March 16/17 would be the best date to conduct the survey. Their second choice is the last weekend in April. Dave Williams isn’t sure how much lead time CARA will need to prepare the survey. Msgr. Sork feels that the “in pew” survey is the best method and doing it around Lent is the ideal time to get more parishioners and possibly the ones who attend less often. They plan to let people know ahead of time what it is and why it’s being done.

Kelly Tramontin mentioned Objective #4 and wonders how this survey will reach people who have left the church and bring them back. Gayle Plecha said this may not be the vehicle to use to reach out to them. Finding out why people don’t attend Mass may be another project. Dave Williams said CARA will provide SJF with a hard copy, spreadsheet and digital copy as well as the actual surveys they received.

Bill Munday explained how we will get additional detailed information through the survey on two “subgroups”. The first subgroup we will receive additional information on is age group (i.e. bands of age groups). The second subgroup will be level of involvement in the church (i.e. in the survey people will be asked to what degree they are involved in the Parish).

There were some questions about how the survey will be conducted and Bill Munday said Cara recommends asking parishioners to complete the 100 question survey over a period of 10 minutes after the homily. CARA does this at many parishes and it’s designed to take just 10 minutes.

Mid-year Look at all Five 2018-2019 Objectives

Beverly Beatty said Objectives 1 *“We will develop new goals or refine existing goals for the 5-year Pastoral Plan”* and 2 *“We will prepare for the archdiocese’s capital campaign.”* were discussed earlier in the meeting. On Objective 3 *“We will develop ways for the Pastoral Council to provide direct assistance, when requested, to the youth and teen religious education programs.”* Megan Tilles and Kelly Tramontin reported that

they met with Margaret Johnson and Katie Dante to offer help that will focus on ways to supplement the Religious Education ministry efforts at SJF.

Grant Hungerford indicated that he would also be interested in obtaining help from Pastoral Council at the upcoming Joe Melendrez concert since it is a more technical event and the timing of it runs close to the start of Mass. Dana Hargrave and Megan Tilles offered to help. It was suggested that he provide a sign-up sheet at the next Pastoral Council meeting for anyone else who may want to assist.

On Objective 4 *“We will identify disillusioned/lapsed/alienated Catholic constituencies and develop ways to encourage them to come back to the Church.”* Joe Arroyo reported on research he has conducted with Roya Adli, Katie Dante and Kelly Tramontin. He passed out four related articles to the Pastoral Council, shared information on an upcoming Word on Fire institutional digital summit and relevant RE Congress sessions he plans to attend that relate to Objective #4. Gayle Plecha suggested that Joe attend Youth Day and also recommended he review the latest issue of Angelus magazine that had a series of articles about the underserved.

There was some further discussion regarding the youth ministry aspects of Objective #3 and the “bringing disillusioned/lapsed/alienated Catholics back to church” aspects of Objective #4. Additional discussion followed regarding overall Parish resource needs in the youth area, including some of the challenges related to sustaining volunteer support.

On Objective 5 *“We will determine and record throughout the year what the parish has accomplished that we want to make known to the Palos Verdes Peninsula community (for example, to publicize at the PV Street Fair).”* Bill Munday gave a reminder that at last year’s street fair the Parish primarily was trying to advertise the school and that as this year’s street fair approaches we should consider additional things we may want to promote. Msgr. Sork suggested that this be added to future agendas. Gayle suggested getting the welcome statement out to the public as a way to get people to come to Mass.

Formation Session – February 20th – 6:30 PM (Potluck)

Beverly Beatty said Pastoral Council will have a potluck at 6:30 PM on February 20th followed by the formation session in the rectory meeting room. The room may be cold so dress accordingly.

Dive-in Lenten Series – March 11-29

Members of Adult Faith Formation will be selling the annual passes outside the church after all Masses on February 23/24. Passes are \$25.00 each and good for two people at all events. Tickets are \$5.00 each at the door of the event and also good for two people.

Lenten Soup Supper – March 22

Pastoral Council will be hosting the Lenten Soup Supper on March 22nd. Beverly Beatty passed around the sign-up sheet for those who plan to volunteer.

PC Nominating Committee

Beverly Beatty asked each member to think of people they know who would be interested in joining Pastoral Council. Gayle said the applications would be on the website.

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress

RE Congress will be held March 22-24 in Anaheim. Youth Day is March 21.

New Parishioners Brunch – Plaza Room

Gayle Plecha reported that Pastoral Staff proposes Sunday, June 2nd after the 10:45 AM Mass for the next new parishioners brunch. There were conflicts with the other proposed date of May 5th. Frank Lee has agreed to call all the new parishioners to personally invite them to the brunch. There was some discussion as to whether the auditorium or Plaza room would be a better place to meet. It was decided to meet in the Plaza room again.

Other

- None

The meeting was concluded at 8:58 PM with the prayer of St. John Fisher.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Acherman