

**St. John Fisher Pastoral Council Meeting
January 8, 2020**

Present: Msgr. David A. Sork, Chris Ratliff (chair), Joe Arroyo (vice chair), Sheila Bloodgood, Dana Hargrave, Steve Izuno, Carl Mossberg, Kelly Tramontin, Dave Williams, Roya Adli (youth rep.), Gayle Plecha, and Margaret Johnson as the staff representative.

Absent: Janos Bakos, Bill Smith, Megan Tilles and Chiby Onyeador (youth alt.)

Guest(s): Sondi Culler

Msgr. Sork opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and welcomed the staff representative and guest.

The Council prayed the First 15 led by Carl Mossberg.

Pastor-Parish Life (Msgr. Sork)

Feedback

- **Mass of Anointing of the Sick – December 7**
No feedback from Pastoral Council. Msgr. Sork said he anointed about 50 people.
- **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – December 12**
Joe Arroyo reported that the event and the mariachi band were better than last year, and that Fr. Francis gave a great sermon.
- **Advent Concert – December 15**
Chris Ratliff reported that 326 people attended the concert. Dana Hargrave said Grant Hungerford's survey indicated that the bulletin remains the best way to advertise parish events.
- **Advent Penance Service – December 16**
Chris Ratliff said having so many priests in attendance is important because they are demonstrating their commitment to the sacrament. Msgr. Sork said he tries to get as many priests as possible since he never knows what the turnout will be. He expects an even bigger turnout for Lent.
- **SJF Outreach to families in need**
 - **Adopt-a-Family: Gifts to Sagrado Corazon – December 21.** Carl Mossberg briefed:
 - Margaret Johnson has been coordinating the event for 10 years. She works with someone at Sagrado Corazon who interviews families to determine needs. The families tend to ask only for items of basic needs. She sends this information to the various groups at SJF.
 - When the SJF group arrived with the gifts, Sagrado Corazon parishioners helped take them to the "SJF Parish Room." The receiving families express sincere appreciation to SJF.

- **The Giving Tree (Christian Family Movement).** Joe Arroyo briefed that parishioners place gifts under the Christmas tree in the church. They are then stored until distribution day in the auditorium. Each organization that serves the needy families arrives with two people to gather gifts. It's over in a matter of minutes.
- **Simbang Gabi – December 21**
Consuelo Conrad chaired the organizing committee this year, which was attended by 605 people. The Council's consensus is that it was a well-organized, very successful Event with great food.
- **Christmas Masses – December 24 & 25**
Msgr. Sork said both 4:00 PM Masses (in the church and in the PAC) on Christmas Eve were standing room only. He normally advises people to choose another Mass because these are so crowded. Msgr. Sork was impressed with the furniture Bill Howe built for the Masses in the PAC for Christmas and Easter.
- **Christmas décor feedback**
The Council's consensus is that the decorations are tasteful and nicely done.

Upcoming Events

- **The Unexpected God with Father Edward Beck – January 12**
This Sunday, January 12, after the 5 pm Mass, Fr. Edward Beck will have a presentation after dinner is served in Barrett Hall.
- **Fireside Chat with Msgr. Sork – January 27**
This is an open forum with questions in the Fireside Room.
- **Festival of Faith 2020 Jesse Manibusan – February 2 - 4**
Msgr. Sork briefed that Jesse Manibusan will introduce himself at each Mass that weekend. To Carl Mossberg's question about how speakers are chosen, Dave Williams said members of the Adult Faith Formation Committee make suggestions to Misty Jesse, who must book speakers three to four years in advance. He reported that Fr. Beck will be coming back as a speaker in a few years.

Emergency Preparedness Plan (Gayle Plecha)

Gayle Plecha briefed:

- Emergency Response Cards are in the pews, akin to Airline Safety Cards you review when you fly on a commercial airline.
- An ad-hoc team of parishioners that included a firefighter, a police officer, an LAPD psychologist, an ER physician, and Community Emergency Response Team-trained people along with Margaret Johnson and Gayle Plecha, met frequently over the summer to develop the Emergency Response Plan and the information cards.
- The Emergency Response Plan includes a comprehensive communications tree, beginning with the priest on duty, who will contact the pastoral staff, who will contact the support staff and send notifications through School Speak and the Next Door app.

- Parishioners who wear name tags to Mass, such as Pastoral Council members, ushers, and key ministry members, should be prepared to offer help and guidance without prompting in case of an emergency, such as a fire breaking out during Mass.

Barrett Hall Remodel

The consensus of the Council is that the renovation looks very well done and is consistent with the décor of the church. Gayle Plecha commended the SJF Facilities Manager, Angel Garcia, for his work as the general contractor, overseeing all work and coordinating the different vendors and phases of the renovation. She also commented that the renovation was much more than cosmetic because all the service under and through the slab were replaced. Msgr. Sork clarified that Barrett Hall improvements are not part of the Capital Campaign but come from existing surplus funds.

Capital Campaign Update

Msgr. Sork reported:

- Pledges are at 54% of the campaign total at the end of 2019, ahead of the goal of 50%. Specifically, 84 families have already pledged \$4.3 million.
- Information sessions for about 300 more families are scheduled for January 26 and 28.
- The campaign video should be ready to show the Capital Campaign Committee at their next meeting, It will then be posted to sjf.org.
- Our very successful campaign coordinator, Wendy Niculescu, is moving to Oregon. The new coordinator is Hannah Woods.

Chair/Vice-Chair

Approval of December Minutes

The chair asked for corrections to December minutes. Hearing none, Dana Hargrave moved to approve the minutes as presented. Joe Arroyo seconded. The minutes were approved.

Update: Family Promise of the South Bay - (in residence Jan. 5-12)

Dave Williams reported that for the first time all the volunteer slots were filled before the families arrived. The next hosting dates are July 5 -12 and August 30 - September 6. Chris Ratliff reported that he enjoyed spending Monday evening over dinner with the families and said they are wonderful, gracious people.

Staff Rep: Margaret Johnson: Religious Education Update

Margaret Johnson reported:

- The Religious Education Congress will be held in Anaheim on February 21-23.
- She is preparing the First Communion candidates for their first reconciliation.
- Our parish is blessed to have many talented and devoted catechists who work with her to teach our children.

2019-2020 Pastoral Plan Objectives (Team Leaders' Briefs)

Objective #1 - We will identify and reach out to formerly active parishioners of all ages.

- Sheila Bloodgood reported that the first postcard (mailed to every household on the parish mailing list) advertising events at SJF was mailed out, and they are now awaiting

feedback. The intent is to send a postcard quarterly. Each one will include Life Teen events on one side and other parish events on the other side.

- Gayle Plecha suggested the next postcard include events from February through June.

Objective #2 - We will seek opportunities to witness at Mass in various ways to help make the Gospel come alive. Carl Mossberg reported:

- A parishioner gave a witness talk at a Sunday evening Mass in early December 2019.
- Fr. Francis is working to have a witness talk at one Mass each month.

Objective #3 - We will support the implementation of Life Teen.

- Steve Izuno reported that he has conferred with Zack Zuvich, and there is a lot of opportunity for parish adults to help but not to stick around.
- Roya Adli said the second Life Teen event was on December 15th, and almost 40 teens attended -- about twice as many kids as the first event.

Objective #4 - We will support ministries and provide opportunities for their continued success by promoting volunteerism.

- Dana Hargrave reported:
 - They are considering how to promote greater involvement. Most ministries are going strong, but some of them do need help.
 - The team recommends setting up a kiosk with ministry brochures and a “Be a Disciple” logo to attract people’s attention.
- Gayle Plecha asked if they had discussed the *Called & Gifted™ Discernment Process*, which SJF had used in years past. Bill Munday is looking at an internet-based version of *Called & Gifted™*; the objective team should consider meeting with him for more information.

Objective #5 - We will improve our usage of social media to better enable all our goals.

- Steve Izuno reported:
 - He and Megan Tilles reached out to the Communication Advisory Committee.
 - Zack Zuvich uses Instagram to connect with the youth.
- Gayle Plecha said the need for social media is to connect with the youth of the parish.

Objectives 6 and 7: reporting complete

Next Meeting – February 5

Other. With no other inputs, the chair asked that agenda suggestions be sent to him to present to the Pastoral Council Executive Committee.

The meeting concluded at 8:45 pm with the prayer of St. John Fisher.