

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – October 16, 2017

In attendance: Fr. Ron Sajdak, Fr. Daniel Ogbeifun, Sue Casilio, Margaret Cusack, Kevin Dean, Chrissy Erbacher, Rob Fohl, Michele Mogavero, Meghan Rogers, Jeff Schoenborn, Ted Smith, Amy Vossen Vukelic, John Wilde

Excused: Deacon Tom Friedman, Catherine Friedman, Andrew Suchyna

Guests: Maureen Rademaker, Bruce Zgoda

1. Meeting opened with prayer.
2. Minutes from September were approved.
3. Fr. Ron
 - a. Staff retreat with Fr. Jim Pribek, SJ, was held on Reist Street.
 - b. Conflict of space last week raised the issue again of use of space in the church.
 - c. A note will appear in the bulletin with Fr. Ron's thoughts on prayer and church tradition with respect to adoration.
4. Family Faith Formation – John
 - a. Now fully staffed – he provided an organizational chart and responsibilities for all on FFF staff.
 - b. Reviewed the programs
 - 1) Grades 1-3 – growing fast, multiple classes at each grade level, classroom based, focus on knowing God, Jesus, friendship, being a good Christian, sacraments (Reconciliation & Eucharist).
 - 2) Grades 4, 5/6 – seeing a drop-off of attendance. Looking at restructuring the program, e.g. curriculum, how it's being taught. Want to create a family faith plan.
 - 3) Discussed the home-based program that is available to parishioners.
 - 4) Grades 6/7 – Edge program is being used (a Life Teen program) – works hand in hand with catechesis and youth ministry. Very successful.
 - 5) Grade 8 – currently in with 6/7 but looking to make an Edge program for just 8th grade. Considering doing mini-courses with the parents, e.g. Theology of the Body. Looking to do a retreat and provide a transition to high school.
 - 6) High School – under revision. Looking to make it more practical.
 - 7) Youth Ministry – opportunity to go deeper in their faith to and to put faith in action
 - 8) Young Adults
 - 9) A number of adult programs are also underway.
 - c. Megan reviewed the space needs for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – possibilities are the choir loft, rectory basement, and new space.
5. Amy
 - a. Peace hubs, culture of encounter, listening campaigns have taken place.
 - b. Pastoral staff retreat – after the speaker, they reviewed an article from *Origins* by Fr. Rosica regarding Pope Francis's culture of encounter – “Faith is an encounter with Jesus, and we need to encounter others as Jesus does.” We are being encountered by Jesus and we need to meet people where they are.
 - c. Next meeting of ministries will take place on October 30th in the Paa Center.
 - d. New commissioner of Department of Social Services – trying to reduce the number of children that go into social services and get them back to their parents sooner. Looking for parishes to help the families in a variety of ways, e.g. cutting lawn, advocate in court.
6. New Business - Discuss at upcoming meeting how to establish a committee and/or processes to help pastor and staff to holistically assess and plan for space, facility and infrastructure needs across the entire 13-acre campus. November meeting to include discussion of last year's parish survey results to ensure that opportunities and concerns raised in early 2016 have been considered or addressed.
7. The meeting closed with prayer.

Next meeting: November 20, 2017. Future Meetings: 2017: December 18. 2018: January 22, February 26, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20.

All parishioners are welcome to attend.

MJD 10/21/17