

**Church of the Resurrection
Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes of January 20, 2016**

Attendance

Present: Terry Battaglia, Lisa Frey, Mark Altstadt, Christa Bomeli, Marcia Catalano, Dottie Eidam, Kimberly Ensign, Rick Ijams, Bethany Koenig, Barbara Long, Marty Motsco, Dennis Olsheski, Mark Olszewski, Mary Grace Poidomani, Don Rynbrandt, Dotty Smercina

Excused: Father Tom Dragga, Dorie Ijams

Minutes of November 18, 2015 were approved

Faith Sharing

Christa Bomeli led Faith Sharing with the reading of Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21 followed by council comments.

Lent: Series on Mercy

Lisa Frey announced a series of talks beginning on February 11th and every Thursday thereafter until March 10. These 5 separate topics will be examining mercy and how it is lived out on various levels. Christa Bomeli raised the possibility of providing babysitting for these nights.

Lent: Stations of the Cross

Mary Grace asked how to increase attendance at the Stations of the Cross. Suggestions included announcement of the type of Stations to be used on a particular night, i.e. "Mary's Stations" in an effort to attract more women that particular night in addition to the regulars. Similar measures could be taken for perhaps a men's group, younger people or a family night. Further comments included a simple soup meal afterwards to compete with fish fry events or presenting the Stations in a different format, **such acting out stations by mimes**. Christa Bomeli mentioned participating in Stations acted out by mimes.

Lent: Service Project

Mary Grace Poidomani raised the idea of doing a service project during lent. Kimberly Ensign **suggestion include** providing parishioners with ideas of how to exhibit mercy during lent, **and having** Mark Olsheski mentioned a contest between council members and parishioners for bringing in the most cans of food. These donations would be used by the many food services Resurrection is involved with. **MG asked kim to compilr list of ideas expressed regarding our Lenten works of mercy asnd how to implement** Council members may **add ideas by emailing** are encouraged to e-mail Kimberly at her work address with ideas of what to do as our works of mercy and how to implement it.

Reaching Out/ Welcoming

Marty Motsco introduced the topic of welcoming people at both Christmas and Easter services. Conversation dealt with how to make people feel welcomed and getting the word out to the general public about our services. The possibilities advanced included: 1) children being greeted, perhaps giving them something such as a sticker; 2) sign by the street advertising our holiday Masses;

3) handing out Mass information at Live Nativity; 4) Resurrection Christmas card out early (beginning of December); and 5) making use of Solon Community Cable Station.

Marty distributed the suggested paragraph by Fr. Tom which explains the long standing practice of not passing a collection basket during the Mass. Council felt strongly about not including the paragraph in the worship aid but rather have it in the bulletin Finance section where the weekly donations are mentioned. In addition, a more personal approach was suggested via the greeters and cross bearer to answer questions asked by newcomers.

From this discussion, a new idea emerged: that of a FAQ section (Frequently Asked Questions) in the bulletin titled "You Asked, We Answered"

Finally, Marty addressed the topic of how to welcome new members. It was suggested that brochures and basic information should be available on a table in the Gathering Area much like St. Rita School had for their enrollment recruitment. In addition, Marty passed around several advertisements/letters of welcome/ brochures that a former council member had received upon moving to a new location. Lisa Frey included a pamphlet that Resurrection had done a few years back. Perhaps this can be revived but council would need to find a way to determine newcomers to the area.

Addendum to the above topic

Attendance

Barb Long and Mark Altstadt mentioned their experiences of attending non-Catholic services and being met with large, enthusiastic congregations. Council examined how to achieve this at Resurrection. Kimberly Ensign suggested more family activities; Mark Altstadt expressed following the interests of the current generation. Preaching and music seemed to be the key factors that came out of an interesting, lively discussion. Since it was acknowledged that homilies are not the issue at Resurrection, it appeared that music may be a way to approach a more main-stream worship environment. Council members felt that once the music director, Julie Parrotta settled into her new position, she might be able to engage the younger generation by following a more contemporary vein. Question was also raised as to making the new Worship Committee aware of Council's thoughts.

Topic Postponements

Due to the lengthy discussion of some of the meeting's agenda, the following topics will be taken up at Council's next meeting:

Opening of the Year of Mercy

Nativity Presence

Update on Way of Proceeding

Council members were asked to review the revised "Way of Proceeding" handed out by Christa Bomeli and e-mail her with any comments so that necessary changes in the document can be made in time for the next Council meeting, February 17th.

Comments from Pastoral Team

Terry Battaglia: Live Nativity had good attendance; Mardi Gras is coming up as is Chili, Cheesecake and Checkers with proceeds from this latter event benefiting a Resurrection family; First Communion program is beginning and Confirmation is underway; Girls for the World presentation is this coming week and Music in a Sacred Space is January 27th.

Lisa Frey: Homeless collection has been delivered; Stand Down is January 23rd and cluster parishes involved have met and made progress in plans for the future; Fair Trade boutique will be at Resurrection this October.

Roundtable

Rick Ijams mentioned that he had heard from parishioners that they did not like the placement of the Advent Wreath and also wanted the indoor nativity scene to be more visible.

Christa Bomeli requested that the parish electronic notification system include happy news in addition to the deaths in the parish.

Mark Altstadt reported that the Father Lou Trivison Scholarship fund did well this year and is able to provide 3 scholarships.

Closing Prayer

Closing Prayer was offered by Barb Long

Next Meeting

The Council will reconvene 7PM, Wednesday, February 17th

Faith Sharing will be offered by Dennis Olsheski

Closing prayer will be offered by Marcia Catalano