

January 18, 2017
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Upper Room
7 – 9 PM

- Attendance
Present: Mark Altstadt, Christa Bomeli, Fr. Tom Dragga, Kimberly Ensign, Lisa Frey, Bethany Koenig, Barb Long, Robyn Manchick, Marty Motsco, Dennis Olsheski
Excused: Terry Battaglia, Janet Cardamore, Marcia Catalano, Mark Olszewski
Absent: Dottie Eidam
- Call to Order – Marty Motsco
Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.
- Attendance/ Review of Minutes - Christa Bomeli
Meeting minutes were approved as read.
- Faith Sharing : Lisa Frey read the Gospel from Matthew 4:23
- Review of 2016 Advent/Christmas Liturgies. What did you like? What needs improvement? – Marty Motsco (30 min)
Like: Resurrection services are an important part of our day and are missed when unable to attend. Like the feeling of the crowd, the color, the music, the lighting. Got people excited and resonates into the service. There was a sacred overtone to it. Received many compliments on the decorations. The peace cranes were a wonderful addition. There were about 30 people come out to make the cranes. Attention to detail was different and really added to the spirituality of the event. Everything was very fluid. Glad that our church becomes part of their tradition. At another church, children brought presents to the altar. Everyone loves the Live Nativity. It's amazing the amount of work that goes into it and how it looks effortless. It was beautiful that the musicians were all our own from the choirs to the instruments. It was a great work of our own people.
Improvements: Miss having the Nativity scene over by the baptismal font to be center instead of over on the side. The area it is in is a devotional area for different devotions over the year. Nativity scene was never meant to be centered and was designed by St. Francis of Assisi as a preaching tool. There was a concern about having baptisms at the font and the Nativity scene to be in the way. The corner allows time for personal devotion.
- 2017 Advent/Christmas Liturgies. The 4th Sunday of Advent falls on Dec. 24th. Proposal to have 1 Saturday night and 1 Sunday Advent mass and then regular Christmas liturgies (4pm, 6pm, 10pm & 10 am) – Marty Motsco (10 min)
The morning mass on Sunday is the 4th Sunday of Advent. If we cancel it, what would that communicate to the parish? All the Christmas trees will be placed in church, but not lit. The crèche will be in place, but the figurines would not be placed. After the Sunday morning mass, Father will have directions on specifically how to decorate the church so that it will go quickly. What time should mass be? Suggestion is for 10am, it helps split the difference on when parishioners usually attend. It would be communicated repeatedly early and often. How was the crowd at 6pm? 6pm was full, not as full as 4pm, but still a full crowd. Father likes the 6pm mass as it's not as hectic and tends to be more parishioners than those who don't always attend. 10pm tends to be the same as 6pm. Do not believe that we can change the Christmas

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liturgies. Communication will indicate the 4th Sunday of Advent, not Christmas. This happens every 7-8 years. Perhaps have the choir practice during the decorating of the church after mass. Or bring in punch and cookies. Something to make it festive. Have RTC to be a part of it as a service event. At least have music on to motivate people to be done quickly. Feeling is that more people will come to Saturday Vigil than the 4th Sunday of Advent mass. May need extra chairs in the church on Saturday. For Eucharistic Ministers, you might want to make sure you have a full 6. Suggestion is for the PPC to help take the lead on the decorating of the church.

- Video/Sound proposal for connecting Trivison Hall to main worship space – Marty Motsco (15 min)

The purpose is that mass could be seen and heard in Trivison Hall if we are unable to have a 2nd priest come to help at a secondary location mass (like Christmas 4pm). This past Christmas, the 2nd priest came late thinking that the mass is at 5pm. The parishioners were understanding and kind regarding this situation. Communion would be bought for Trivison Hall. Question is how often would it be used and does it make more sense to rent versus purchasing the equipment. The 3 masses on Easter Sunday are full, but there doesn't seem to be enough for an overflow mass. It could perhaps be used during funerals or Music in a Sacred Space so that those setting up for the social could see when the event is done. The screens would only be in Trivison Hall, not at all in the Worship space. Could also put a small screen in the nursery for those parents that need to stay in the nursery. A suggestion to record the homilies/talks for further uses. Father is not into having his homilies recorded, but can see having the talks recorded. Thinking of having 2 cameras, a drop down screen, and some very good speakers. Father has been in talks with Eighth Day Sound who has done conventions and other events. There appears to be many uses for it. Father is thinking of large screen TVs. Suggestion is for projector screen with a projector mounted to the ceiling. That would allow it to be more discreet and keeps the spirituality of Trivison Hall. A family could project photos during a funeral luncheon. The screens could be used for retreats.

- Preview of Lenten services & activities – Pastoral Staff (30 min)

Julie Parrotta will be making a brochure of our Lenten programs and service. Lent begins Wednesday, March 1st. The Lenten Series will be the 4 Mondays in Lent and will focus on the Triduum – Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil. You do not need to attend all of the sessions. Something is scheduled for every Wednesday in the evenings. Robert Ellsberg from Orbis Press will be speaking on the 2nd Wednesday (March 8th) and will be talking about Dorothy Day. March 15th is the Sung Stations and is the night of our PPC meeting. The Sung Stations will be our opening prayer for the PPC meeting and then meet in the Upper Room afterwards. Father will be hearing confessions that evening as well. March 22nd is the communal reconciliation service. March 29th will be Taize prayer. We will have stations on Fridays except March 17th. The times will still be at the same time at 7pm. The last evening of station is April 7th and will be our Bread & Soup Meal and Becoming Human series with Fr. Mark Hobson speaking about his journey into the city and the impacts that has had. It did not feel as there is a consensus on moving the times of the stations. When will the palms be collected and can it be better publicized? They can be brought in at any time. Is the Seder happening again? We have not yet received an invitation. Dennis is willing to coordinate this again if we receive an invitation. It was from Fairmont Temple.

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- Comments from Pastoral Team

Lisa: We have offered some opportunities for prayers that were more unusual. The Labyrinth was here and close to 40 people signed in. This past Sunday was the Circle the City with Love and about 30 people came. It was a half hour of silence with prayers of love for the future of the county and world. Lisa is proud of the good response and that people were energized by it. Lisa will continue to look for these type of activities. Father feels like there wasn't a time during the whole day that there wasn't someone walking it. January 30th Becoming Human event. It will be a unique opportunity for adults and children to share in prayer. February scripture study will be during the day at 11am on Thursdays. She's excited to be able to use some of the material from her doctorate. Food Pantry is looking for some new people to volunteer in the pantry. It is a commitment of about 6 hours during a week and on a rotational schedule. If you know someone who would be interested, please follow up with Lisa. It's easier to work during the day time. You'll be packing food, calling them, gathering information. They need to come pick up the food, we do not deliver.

Father Tom: no comment

- Roundtable Discussion

Barb – prayer requests in gathering space and on display. Would it be better to not place them on display? Discussion: There is also an intention book. Has always had a book of intentions. After the new worship space was built, there were some who were adamant that intentions were also displayed. Some people like to read them and would then pray for those special intentions.

Dennis – do we do things periodically that involve those of minorities or other ethnic groups? At a previous church, they had a fair that allowed those of other ethnic groups to show and describe their nationalities. We did have an international theme at a Welcome Picnic after St. Jude joined our parish.

Mark – Charitable giving committee met and will be announcing the Loaves & Fishes grant - \$10,000 will be available for NEO charities. Four full Fr. Trivison Scholarships were given out for a total of \$17,000.

Christa – RTC Bounce Back was Jan. 8th. PSR started back up on Jan. 7th and Confirmation classes started. RTC will be having a CAVS watch party or a game night Jan. 21st and in February is a Monsters game.

- Closing Prayer this meeting: Mark Altstadt

Upcoming dates:

Jan. 30th – Becoming Human: Somewhere to Begin

Feb. 2, 9, 16 & 23 – Soup Sandwich & Scripture w/ Lisa Frey

Feb. 15th – Parish Council Meeting

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, February 15th.

Opening Faith Sharing will be presented by Janet Cardamone.

Closing prayer will be presented by Bethany Koenig.