

Council year: 2018-2019

January 16, 2019
Parish Pastoral Council Agenda
Upper Room
7 – 9 PM

- Attendance:

Present: Janet Cardamone, Lisa Frey, Christa Bomeli, Barbara Long, Fr. Tom Dragga, Louise Cox, Robyn Manchick, Michael Sreshta, Chuck Maimbourg, Beth Wolfson, Terry Battaglia, Marylou Gall, Toddy McMonagle, Keith Miles, Maggie Beatty

Excused: Mark Olszewski

Unexcused: Michael Sreshta

- Christa Bomeli called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- Attendance - Maggie Beatty
- Faith Sharing: Marylou Gall - 2nd Sunday in OT Gospel according to John 2: 1-11
- Advent/Christmas Programming follow-up: What is one thing that stood out to you this Advent/Christmas Season? – Christa Bomeli (15 minutes)
 - Solon Magigals
 - 10p Christmas Eve mass - “simplicity”, conducive to a peaceful night, very enjoyable
 - Christmas service homilies were all on point
 - Christmas Day mass - peaceful, lovely way to start Christmas, simplicity of the small choir
 - Breakfast in Bethlehem
 - Live Nativity - good, but wet
 - Advent weekly email was a success - parishioners that participated may have been hesitant at first, but then really came to enjoy/learned a lot about it
 - RTC program of singing carols at Rainbow Babies was very positive/moving experience for watching kids come out of their shells to do something they wouldn't always participate and how meaningful it seemed for the nurses/families/patients
 - Food Basket project - sometimes it seems like we aren't going to be able to satisfy all the needs, but we always end up with enough and the generosity of
 - NYE service - the care that parishioners had for each other as they assisted others up and down the altar to lay their resolutions at the altar
- “Guess Who's Coming for dinner?” Committee idea in regards to hosting a dinner for 8-10 people to meet new faces – Barb Long (5-10 min)
 - Many years ago, she was visiting her son at a very large church near Fr. Ustice/Naval Base where people move in and out a lot, young and older members and they had a sign-up for a pot-luck to meet new people.
 - We'd like to do this here at COTR to make a dinner/show up and meet new people.
 - Mixing of families, young, older, single, married
 - Might be a good idea to do in the 49th year in anticipation of our 50th anniversary to share inclusivity
 - Possible as a progressive dinner -- some houses be an appetizer home, main dish, and then meet back up at Trivison Hall for dessert

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- Test market it this spring/summer and then see how the response is - start with just a dinner (no appetizers) and then head to the church for dessert.
- Home setting can foster more intimate conversation/budding friendship
- Back in '83/'84 there used to be a Lenten reflection called Renew that went from home-to-home to pray/reflect together and that was a great way to meet people
- John Carroll has a large international student population and it might be nice to include them.
- Barb Long to start a committee -- primary goal being to start Late April - mid-May

- Courageous Conversations follow-up/feedback... What's next? – Lisa Frey (10-15 min)
 - Dobi Moser facilitated - 6 tables of people
 - Was sent to Bishop Perez asking that he read and reflect
 - Notes/compilation were sent only to the people that attended
 - The compilation was depressing because reading all of the combined thoughts with a lot of the same undertones of anger/frustration/sadness
 - The evening/compilation feedback was handled thoughtfully and with focus and addressed the seriousness and praying for movement and with an act of courage
 - Next steps -- do we share the feedback? What should we do next?
 - Because it was advertised, the consensus of PPC is that we should Not share the results outside of the group. It doesn't serve a purpose to expand the group that was touched.
 - What more can we do to take back our church? The district meeting (Parish/Catholic institutions St. Joan of Arc to Marymount Hospital -- meets 4x a year) "would we see a value in creating some sort of forum group (modeled after AA) to provide spiritual healing? Do we have persons/parishioners in our district to invite/serve on the committee? (Psychologists/Psychiatrists, Nurses, etc.) The District Pastoral Staff overwhelmingly said YES! It would be therapeutic and provide healing. St. Rita Mary Harwood to come to the next district meeting to provide feedback/thoughts on the best way to go about this. Part of the conversation is figuring out where to do a meet-up like this (Not sure if ANY church is the best location). We'd like to at some point be able to offer people who have experienced abuse to have a safe place to meet. It's FREE. We (the church) has caused the problem so we need to offer acknowledgement/support/help to those affected by ANY kind of abuse.
 - AA started in Akron -- this could be the start of something truly remarkable.
 - We always talk about the person sexually abused, but this could actually help the parent/sibling of those affected because of the ripple effect.
 - We don't want to lose sight of the development of a healing garden within our own parish -- we need to keep that on the front burner

- Alpha Program update – Fr. Tom (5 min)
 - The program is moving along nicely. 4 churches are participating: COTR, St. Rita, Advent Lutheran, and Solon UMC. Starts Feb. 6 - April 10 with a simple meal. (Not meeting on Ash Wednesday) Men's Prayer Group - Feb. 6, PSR/RTC Feb. 27, Choir ?, PPC - ?

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- Emphasis on the simple meal -- 6:30-8:30p total including dinner/movie/discussion/dessert.
- Discussion leaders have been trained and so far we have 12-15 people registered so far
- Discernment Process – Christa Bomeli
 - Committee is Christa, Barb and Mark (They are in their final year). Usually starts in March, but please start thinking about what your future plans are.
 - Also, start thinking of parishioners that you think would be good for Parish Council
- Comments from Pastoral Team
 - LISA: Social Justice Commission 2018 Year in Review: Food related services (Hunger Centers, Food Pantries/Baskets/Giving Trees), Homeless Stand Down, marches downtown, Turkish American Society monthly cooking classes & programs, Refugee Sponsorship, etc.. For the coming year looking to focus further on the environment/food availability/ecosystem value + immigration and continuing our focus on race/inequality. Caregiving Support ministry (especially memory loss) -- parishioners/family members
 - TERRY: First Communion kick-off, Confirmation as well. “Retreat season” is in full season. Taste of Resurrection fundraiser for the youth mission trip
 - FR. TOM: The Best of Ireland Oct. 15 - 25, 2019 . 50+ Group is going very very well. Feb. 16 is a Murder Mystery Dinner -- \$26 dinner/wine. Tuesday, March 26 is the Cleveland Art Museum trip. It is 50 GIVE/TAKE - you don't have to be a specific age -- all really are welcome
- Roundtable Discussion
 - On NPR, the countries affected most by targeted religious crimes are N. Korea and India
 - Refugee family is expanding their world - Dad has a job 2nd shift doing a labor-type job, kids are in school/daycare. Food storage is still an issue. Hillary is the case worker and we're going to set up a face-to-face interview because we don't want to be pushing our values to help, but also wanting to be respectful of their space. Moving on a washer/dryer but the logistics are a little tricky.
 - Very interested/intrigued in being involved in the committee to help with the abuse victims
 - Having the Christmas tree set up before Thanksgiving is hard for people to see.
 - Mobile Pantry has people affected by the government shutdown. Hasn't worked in 26 days - no pay/benefits, and is living on edge.
 - Send your Rep/Congress via email/website a note that people are affected by the shut-down.
- Closing Prayer – Maggie Beatty
- Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

Upcoming dates:

Jan. 16th – 50 Plus Club - Soup/Salad/Conversation – 12:15p
 Jan. 17th – Yoga – 9am
 Jan. 17th – Psalms & Soup – 11am
 Jan. 18 - 19th – PSR/RTC Teacher retreat
 Jan. 19th – Turkish Cooking Class – 12pm
 Jan. 21st – Contemplative Prayer Presentation – 7:30p
 Jan. 23rd – MIASS Holy Spirit Choir/ MLK Tribute – 7:00p
 Jan. 24th – Yoga – 9am

Jan. 24th – Psalms & Soup – 11am
 Jan. 27th – St. Rita School open house – 1:30pm
 Feb. 2-3rd – Confirmation Retreat
 Feb. 5th – Labyrinth
 Feb. 5th – Breaking Bread, Sharing Faith
 Feb. 6th – Alpha Program starts - dinner first 6:30p
 Feb. 8th – Taste of Resurrection - 6:30p
 Feb. 16th – Fifty Plus: Murder Mystery Dinner – 6:30pm