

Parish Council Meeting: February 17, 2104

- 1) Opening Prayer
- 2) Parish ministries, various
 - a. Seder 2014
 - i. Kathy Badgerow: This year will be a year off from the seder meal
 1. 9 usual volunteers unavailable this year
 - ii. The event has been going well in the past few years
 - iii. Approximately 60 participants last year
 1. Aprox. 10 less participants every year
 - iv. Will reevaluate next year
 - b. Catholic Urban Project
 - i. 5th year in summer of 2014
 - ii. Missionary applications coming in
 - iii. Diocese interest in have CUP in Flint
 - c. Schola Artium
 - i. 32 students registered in the program
 - ii. 15 students being transported from local schools to program
 - iii. Continues to have many student volunteers from Father Gabriel Richard High School
 - d. FOCUS
 - i. As of January we now have 4 full time missionary on FOCUS staff – full campus
 - ii. Many on campus weekly bible studies with several dozen students participating total
 - iii. Aprox. 150-200 students at weekend masses
 - iv. 15-20 at weekend confession times
 - v. 12 students went to the FOCUS Student Leadership Summit in Dallas, TX in January
 - vi. Student population participating mostly Freshman and Sophomores
 - vii. Missionaries leave at end of semester and 4 will return but not necessarily the same people
 - viii. Chaplain's Days during FOCUS New Staff Training – June in Naples, FL
 - ix. Everything going very well – Bishop and Father are pleased thus far
 - x. Planning World Youth Day 2015 trip to Poland
 - xi. Heidemarie Martin – part-time campus minister
 - xii. Eventually, we would like to have a full time campus minister as well as the FOCUS missionaries
 - e. Development Director
 - i. Parish would like to hire a full-time development director in the next year whose job would be to raise money for the parish – fundraising and grants
 - f. Sacred Heart Major Seminary
 - i. The first year of St. Johns acting as a satellite campus for SHMS was successful

1. Small number of students this first year but everyone reports a good experience
 2. We will again hold classes here next year
 3. In the process of working on marketing more widely
- g. Knights of Columbus
- i. Concern: a significant number of knights in SJB parish council are not parishioners at St. Johns.
 1. Some have left parish
 - ii. What do we do about this, if officer board were to become mostly non-parishioner?
 1. Obviously cannot mandate who Knights elect to their council, and we wouldn't want to
 2. No known Knights policy on this issue
 3. If Knights are majority non-parishioners, should their visibility and access to the parish be limited?
 - a. Parish Council will consider this ongoing.
- 3) Parish council structure and membership
- a. It has been over 1.5 years since the merger of St. Johns and Holy Trinity
 - b. Now as things are calming down it would be good to take a look at the parish council and begin to look and function more like a tradition parish council
 1. It would be appropriate for the parish council to reflect the demographics of the parish
 - ii. Old members moving on
 - iii. Term limits suggested by council member
- 4) Long-range planning
- a. Fr. Bob suggests forming a long-range planning committee
 - i. A vision group that would look 5-20 years ahead at the problems and issues and the parish will face and begin to plan for them
 - ii. Really a necessity in our growing parish – consent with the parish council
 1. Building and grounds, parking
 2. Liturgies and clergy
 3. Parish missions and new ministries
- 5) HTSC review
- a. All constituent bodies both in the parish and the diocese agree that the alienation of the Holy Trinity building is the best option
 - b. The central remaining questions are when and to whom would we sell?
 - i. There is no firm answer
- 6) Summer mass schedule
- a. 2013 October counts (a stable, accurate count of mass attendance)
 - b. It is tradition for a student parish to drop one mass in the summer when its population decreases some.
 - i. Council discusses and resolves to stop the 12:15pm mass for the summer

- ii. Father agrees, provided parish staff are in agreement
 - c. We will have the space if the people who attend the 12:15pm mass want to go to other masses until the summer schedule is replaced by fall schedule
 - i. We should be able to easily absorb the 12:15pm crowd into the other mass times, especially taking into consideration the students leaving
- 7) Other
 - a. Priest Shortages
 - i. Many priests retiring. 2 (+/-) pastors this year – and more every year
 - ii. 5 masses and 2 rounds of confession a weekend is too much for 1 priest.
 - 1. This is one of the reasons we need the long range planning committee, so they can look ahead at our needs to when the parish continues to grow but there are fewer and fewer priests so just adding more masses will not be an option.
 - b. New parish hymnal
 - i. The Gather hymnal is obsolete; we only sing a very small percentage of the hymnal.
 - ii. We used song sheets and the supplemental blue songbook to increase our song repertoire, but these means were always meant to be temporary
 - iii. We will now be moving to new, three-ring binder hymnals
 - 1. Cost is lower
 - 2. More flexible to our needs
 - a. New music can be added over time
 - iv. Several thousand dollars have already been raised to support this project.
 - c. Mary, Untier of Knots devotion
 - i. Fr. Bob spoke about the devotion to Mary, Untier of Knots in a homily a year ago and raised some interest in the devotion
 - ii. Pope Francis has strong devotion.
 - iii. We are interested in purchasing an image of Mary, Untier of Knots to go in the confessional area
 - 1. Will be publishing an ad in the bulletin calling for people to donate funds if they are interested
- 8) Closing Prayer