

Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
January 26, 2015

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Jeanne Bitkers, Mary Karls, Leo Schneider, Beth Grebe, Don Holmes, Steve Straus, Maureen Stoelb, Steve Scharrer, Bill Thiele, Pam Duessing, Sue Sellars, Peter Bergman

Excused: Bill Linn, Eileen Diener

Guests: Kathy Pluskat, Ann Scharrer, Vince Karls

1. The opening prayer was led by Pam Duessing.
2. There was no parishioner input at this meeting.
3. Ann Scharrer and Kathy Pluskat gave a report on events being planned by the Prayer and Worship Committee. The “Called and Gifted” Workshop will be held at St. Dominic Parish on Friday and Saturday, February 27 and 28. This is a city-wide event and all are invited to attend. The North-side Parishes have chosen “From Death Into Life” as the theme for our Lenten celebrations. This will be evident in all Lenten services at the three parishes. Fr. Dan Laseki will once again run a series of Lenten “Soup Nights”, which consist of Mass at 5:00 PM followed by a soup supper and discussion. These will be held at St. Clement Parish on Tuesday evenings. Kathy stated that their committee is using the book “Rebuilt” to set goals, patterns and a course for Discipleship in our Parish.
4. Steve Straus discussed the Finance Council report. While Mass attendance and revenues for December were up slightly, envelope and other revenues continue to be below budget projections for this fiscal year. Expenses so far have also been a bit lower than expected. The Finance Council is working with the Stewardship Committee to initiate a Parish Census and explore methods to increase income.
5. Vince Karls reported on projects being undertaken by the Stewardship Committee. Plans include a Parish survey, a pledge drive, a Parish census and a Time & Talent survey. The committee wishes to explore why people may no longer be participating at St. Dominic and try to allay fears that the ongoing ‘sexual abuse lawsuit’ will not tap into funds set aside by parishes for specified uses.
6. Fr. Phil wished to remind Council of the Synod Implementation District Gathering to be held in Fond du Lac on February 7; this gathering will focus on Mass Participation, Parish Leadership, and Evangelization. On Sunday, February 8, the Pastoral Council is sponsoring the meal for the Sunday night High School student FFP meal. Lastly, all Council members are encouraged to attend the “Called and Gifted” workshop on February 27 and 28.
7. Jeanne reminded the Council of Parish elections coming up in May. Don Holmes, Pam Duessing, Bill Thiele and Beth Grebe will be ending their current terms on Council in June. We are to think about the formation of an election/nominating committee (4 persons) prior to our February meeting.

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8. Committee Reports:
 - A. Faith Formation - no report
 - B. Stewardship - Pam Duessing questioned the possibility of a social after every weekend Mass, not just the First Weekend as we do now. The committee is also suggesting an occasional Saturday Night Social to welcome new Parishioners or celebrate other Parish events and activities.
 - C. Human Concerns - All the Christmas collections went very well. For Lent, this group will provide envelopes which will give parishioners the chance to donate to the favorite charity of one of the three, north-side priests.
 - D. Evangelization - This committee is discussing Intentional Discipleship as it applies to our three parishes. Also, the Pastoral Council of St. Clement/Holy Name Parishes will be using the "Called and Gifted" workshop as their Pastoral Council retreat.
 - E. Prayer and Worship - nothing else to report (see above)
 - F. School - Interviews are in progress, there are three candidates for the position of principal.

9. Mary Karls had some suggestions for intermingling with our sister Tripartite Parishes. She feels we should promote more social activities to get to know other parishioners and also, when attending their churches, we could wear name tags to announce that we are visiting.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 23, at 6:30 PM

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on Monday February 16 at 7:15 PM

The prayer leader at the next meeting will be Bill Linn

Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider