

**Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
November 23, 2015**

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Mary Karls, Don Holmes, Leo Schneider, Steve Straus, Steve Scharrer, Jane Kautzer, Peter Bergman, Maureen Stoelb, Ken Sedmak, Jeanne Bitkers, Eileen Diener

Unable To Attend: Jane Watry, Bill Linn, Roy Sellars

1. The opening prayer was led by Ken Sedmak.
2. In Parishioner input, someone has asked if we could list committee liaisons in the bulletin. Discussion on this showed that the committee liaison persons are identified on the Parish web site. Plans are in progress to post this information on the kiosks in the gathering space.
3. Fr. Phil did not have any “hot” topics for his report. As a side note, Mary Karls stated that she and Vince had attended the installation of Fr. Matthew Widder as Pastor of Holy Name/St. Clement by the Archbishop and that it was a beautiful ceremony.
4. Steve Straus gave the Finance report. Income continues to lag behind budget projections; expenses are also falling below the amounts budgeted. One good note; Mass attendance was 5% above the numbers for October, 2014; this is the 3rd month in a row that attendance has been above that of last year. Steve also listed some facility repairs that will need to be done over the next few months.
5. Jeanne Bitkers, chairperson of the North Side Catholic Cluster Committee, outlined the recommended process for planning new Mass times for the three parishes; as drawn up by this committee:
 - ★ On January 9/10, paper surveys will be distributed to all Masses at the three churches. These are to be either completed immediately or returned to the parish offices within one week.
 - ★ On Tuesday, January 19, a special “listening session” for all liturgical ministers will be held at Dominican Hall at St. Clement, at 6:30 PM.
 - ★ There will be two “general” listening sessions for all parishioners; the first will be on Thursday, January 28 at 6:30 PM in St. Dominic PAC. The second one will be on Thursday, February 4 at 9:00 AM in the St. Dominic PAC.
 - ★ Using information from these sources, suggestions will be made to the Pastoral Councils for consideration at their March, 2016 meetings.
 - ★ Considerations will also be made at the joint Pastoral Council Meeting on April 25, 2016; recommendations to accept, alter or delay a new Mass schedule will then be forwarded to Fathers Phil and Matthew for their decisions as Pastors of the three parishes.
 - ★ The introduction of a new Mass schedule would not go into effect until sometime after mid-June, 2016.

Note: These recommendations are to be discussed at the November 30 meeting of the Holy Name/St. Clement Parish Councils and they could request changes to this process.

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6. Committee Reports:
 - A. Evangelization: The committee is conducting follow-up sessions on the Gifted and Talented Workshop.
 - B. School: no report
 - C. Stewardship: The pledge drive will be this weekend, November 28/29. A “Wish on a Star” program will also be held in December.
 - D. Worship: There will be a “new member” welcome at all Masses on December 5 and 6. The committee is continuing the study of the results of the worship survey from last summer. Some members will attend a workshop at the Archbishop Cousins Center on December 2, “Examining RCIA Rites and Rituals Celebrated During Lent”. The “Arise” parish mission will be held at Holy Name on the weekend of December 5/6.
 - E. Human Concerns: The various Christmas Collections held during Advent have been set. There will also be bell ringing for the Salvation Army at the west Pick & Save during the week of 11/29, and a reverse collection for the Food Pantry.
 - F. Cluster Planning: There will be a celebration of “Our Lady of Guadalupe” at St. Clement Parish in December.
 - G. Faith Formation: no report
7. Plans are being made for a joint Pastoral Council Christmas party at St. Clement Dominican Hall on Thursday, December 10. Mary Karls needs RSVP’s for this event by Thursday, 12/3.
8. Jeanne and Don Holmes provided suggested changes to our Pastoral Council “Appendix”, the by-laws by which we operate, concerning the instructions and guidelines for our Parish elections. It was noted that we also need to make some other procedural changes to this document; it will then be submitted to the Archdiocese for approval.
9. Some Parish staff has been considering creating a “face book” page for our north side cluster; it was noted that the Faith Formation Program already has a face book page for their activities. Holy Name and St. Clement Parishes are creating a face book page for their parishes, also.
10. Vince Karls had attended a Stewardship Workshop and brought back information about a Parish Assessment process facilitated by representatives from the Archdiocese. The goal of this is to reinvigorate our parishioners in various aspects of Stewardship. We will look into this process after Christmas.

There will not be a St. Dominic Pastoral Council meeting in December.
Our next Executive Committee meeting will be on Thursday, January 14, at 6:30 PM.
Our next Council meeting will be on Monday, January 25, at 6:30 PM
The prayer leader at that meeting will be Jeanne Bitkers.
Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider