

Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
August 26, 2013

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Jeanne Bitkers, Kathy Pluskat, Leo Schneider, Steve Straus, Sue Sellars, Don Holmes, Eileen Diener, Brett Goebel, Carla Schommer, Bill Thiele, Peter Bergman, Mary Karls, Maureen Stoelb, Pam Duessing

Guest: Beth Grebe

1. The opening prayer was led by Kathy Pluskat.
2. In his pastor's report, Fr. Phil reminded all that September will be a busy month at St. Dominic. We have Fall Festival, Evangelization Workshops, 2014 Synod Preparation, and the new school year CFP kickoff.
3. Peter Bergman stated that, due to problems with the Archdiocesan computer network, the year-ending numbers for the Elizabeth Ann Seton School budget were not reported until after the latest Finance Council meeting. Therefore there is no finance report available at this time.
4. As part of ongoing reflection of Archbishop ListECKI's Pastoral Letter, Fr. Phil asked that all Council members begin reading the book: Rebuilt: Awakening the Faithful, Reaching the Lost, Making Church Matter. Council members spent some time discussing the first two sections of this book and how it relates to our parish. We have been directed to read the remainder of the book and be prepared for discussion at a future Council meeting, focusing on the HERE AND NOW, not on the past.
5. Ongoing Agenda Items:
 - A. The Operating Procedures that were created for both the Pastoral Council and the Finance Council have been received and approved by the Archdiocese.
 - B. Since there are many projects and meetings planned for all our local Catholic brethren this fall, there are no current plans to meet again with the Pastoral Councils of Holy Name/St. Clement. Fr. Phil reported that the staffs of all 3 parishes are meeting on a regular basis.
6. New Agenda Items:
 - A. Beth Grebe reported on the ongoing preparations for the 2014 Synod. The Synod will be based on the information contained in the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter; however this Letter may be a bit difficult for some of the lay parishioners to understand. Therefore, the process for the presentation of this Letter to the laity has been changed. There will be several, 3-hour sessions consisting of video presentations and small-group discussions; these will focus on three topics:
 - "Who We Are" - Identity
 - "What We Do" - Evangelization
 - "How We Do It" - StewardshipThoughts and suggestions arising from these meetings will be consolidated at District meetings to be held next February and then presented to the Archbishop at the Synod next June. Dates being considered for our parish discussions are Sunday, September 29, 1:00 to 4:00 PM; Saturday October 12, 9:00 AM to Noon; and Sunday, October 27, 1:00 to 4:00 PM. It was decided that the first date in September may be a bit too

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soon to complete planning for; therefore we would hold the two sessions in October. Attendance would be requested at one of these sessions.

B. Fr. Phil will need to choose a representative from our parish to attend the Synod in the very soon; he will discuss this in his bulletin articles and in church.

7. Committee Reports:

A. Worship Committee - no report.

B. Human Concerns - no report.

C. Christian Formation - no report

D. Stewardship - no report.

E. Evangelization - Beth gave all a reminder of the upcoming Evangelization Mornings-Of-Reflection; Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 2, and Nov. 16.

F. School Committee - Seton school will have three new teachers this year due to staff vacancies. This will pose new challenges and opportunities for growth at the school.

8. Other Business:

A. Steve Straus asked that Council members assist in serving the Emmaus Meal on Saturday, December 14th. The group scheduled for that weekend has few members and our assistance would be greatly appreciated.

B. Council members were asked to sign up to do an opening prayer at our meetings.

These are as follows:

September - Bill Thiele

October - Eileen Diener

November - Dom Holmes

December - Leo Schneider

January - Pam Duessing

February - Peter Bergman

March - Carla Schommer

April - Maureen Stoelb

May - Kathy Pluskat

June - Mary Karls

C. Council members were also asked to sign up to serve the First Weekend Social, in October. These are as follows:

Saturday, October 5, 5:00 PM Mass - Sue Sellars

Kathy Pluskat

Pam Duessing

Sunday, October 6, 8:00 AM Mass - Leo Schneider

Eileen Diener

Kathy Pluskat

Sunday, October 6, 10:30 AM Mass - Steve Straus

Peter Bergman

Sunday, October 6, 6:00 PM Mass - Mary Karls

Bill Thiele

Our next meeting will be on Monday, September 23, at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider