

Joint Pastoral Council Minutes – FINAL

Date: December 5, 2018. Meeting started 6:30pm

Location: St. James Parish Activity Center

Present: Father Loyola, (Staff) Renee Hitt, Cheryl Marotta (Council members) (St. James) Bill Kirkman, Bill Schmitt, Karen Tylicki, Jerry Holzhauer, Debra Dunn, Kathy Peters, Bob O'Malley, Keith Fisher, Shelly Evers, Carol Pearson, Steve Dohm, Don Kazmier, Roberto Garcia; (St. Theresa's) Jerry Heckel, Claudette Krestan, Newell Thomas, Gail Jolliffe, Darlene Sterzinger, Linda Klingler, Kathy Scherbarth, Julianne Plahuta, Craig Markham, Newell Thomas.

Various committee members from the two parishes were in attendance. Names are included if they reported on their committees.

Absent/Excused: (St. Theresa's) Carlos Chacon, Steve Gorichanaz, Cole McCormack and Isabelle Rabidocky (Youth reps), Tammy Adams, Erin Kupkovits (excused), and Bill Zell

Committee Reports by each Parish:

Stewardship/Evangelization: St. Theresa (Kathy S) St Theresa is currently running a separate Financial campaign and a Time/Talent Campaign. **St. James** (Cheryl M) Cheryl clarified that Evangelization is an overarching ministry of the great commission from Christ to make disciples while Stewardship calls forth parishioners with their gifts to meet the needs of the community). Time/Talent/Treasure campaign is being done as one campaign, encouraging each family to "Do a little bit more." The prayer ministry is very strong. (Roberto Garcia) The new focus by the Archdiocese is "Maintenance to Mission" which focuses on the church being more welcoming. (Kathy Peters) Stewardship has developed a very strong and well-received Funeral hospitality. They serve food and support those attending funerals during their time of grief. Their efforts are being recognized by many people.

Prayer and Worship: St. Theresa's (Mary) Environment committee is preparing for Christmas services and distributed the new-year's misalletes. **St. James** (Carol Pearson) Highlights are Immaculate Conception Mass on 12/8 at 8am, Stations of the Nativity on the 1st and 2nd Fridays of Advent; 12/15 Choir Concert "Christmas Cantata" at 5:15pm; Live Nativity on 12/24 at 4pm with a Children's Mass; Our Lady of Guadalupe is 12/12; New server's ministry will be held on 12/12. Advent reflection books are available in church.

Finance Council: St. Theresa's (Pete G) The "We Share Program" asks younger people to contribute electronically via phone or computer option. **St. James** (Bob) Year-to-date, there is \$292,694 (>2,500 over budget) in

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income and lower expenses accrued at \$266,652. Overall there is \$26,000 more income than expenses. The festival made the same amount with a 2 day event vs. the prior 3 day events in years past. In the near future, there will be a focus on the new building project after Feasibility studies have been completed with a report and 1:1 interviews are done to see if interest is present for financial support.

Adult Faith Formation: St. Theresa's and St. James (collaborating committee) (Renee Hitt) The highlight activities are 1) Little Rock Scripture Study on Tuesday am and pm 2) Exploring the Sunday Readings (bible study) on Thursday and Friday mornings 3) Movie Night on 12/13 "Power in My Hands" at 6:30pm (story of the rosary) 4) Spiritual Soup for the Soul will be offered on Wed evenings during Lent 2019 with speakers on the topic of various prophets with soup offered 5) AFF survey on learning preferences and offerings 6) RCIA has 5 people between the 2 parishes in the program.

Human Concerns: St. Theresa's and St. James (collaborating committee) (Linda O.) Programs focus on social justice and immigrants and refugees. Highlighted programs include 1) Annamarie Carlson from the International Institute of WI who will speak 1/6 in Activity Center at 9:1am on the topic of how WI is helping refugees build new lives and integrate in to WI life 2) St Theresa will host Robert Shelledy (coordinator Social Justice Ministry of Archdiocese) speaking on the Catholic church's stance on Social teachings as it relates to immigration on 1/13/19 3) Film will be presented at St. James on 1/17 at 12pm in Room 10 on the Eucharist and Immigration with incredible footage of the Eucharist being administered through a chain-link fence for immigrants.

Building and Grounds: St. Theresa's (Bob Anderson) Storm windows for the stained glass panels were replaced before winter hit which was a big project, costing over \$50,000. In the Spring/summer of 2019, the tower will undergo improvements that will also total over 50,000. Both projects were a result of years of avoidance due to cost and the labor needed. Unfortunately, both projects are hitting as the campaign for building is starting. These were not avoidable any longer. **St. James** (Tom Krueger) First, the Safety and Security committee has been established with a mission to keep the parishioners safe for situations from tornados to active shooters. In addition, several projects have been completed including rectory roof repairs, new altar flooring, scrubber purchased for the floors, and new kitchen equipment. Further projects must be balance and analyzed as the expansion project is considered...urgent basis only. The biggest concern is the new furnace needed on top of church and for the rectory.

Youth and Religious Ed/CYM: St. Theresa's Isabella and Cole represent the parish's youth on pastoral council **St. James** (Karen Tylicki) The new religious education structure has been well-received after evaluating it mid-

point; Sunday evening masses for the CYM are very well attended with programs starting at 5pm followed by a Mass focused on messages for our teens; Reconciliation was completed last Sunday; and finally, the Youth Ministry representation for Pastoral Council are Paige Sienza and Adam Manske. There was much enthusiasm and engagement to this decision making process.

Environment: St. James (Linda Dominguez) A new committee has been formed after Chris Woolley stepped down after her many years of service. This new group has focused efforts on Advent and Christmas as well as enriching the parishioners experience at the Sunday Mass.

Christian Women: St. James (Linda Dominguez) Highlights were as follows: 1) Coast to Coast rosary in October was well received 2) Saturday Spiritual Talks 3) Collaboration with the Religious Program to complete projects with the children (the children donated items and time to create these projects) including pillowcase bags with toiletries, hat/mitten collection, fleece blankets, fleece scarves—all donated to Salvation Army and the Women's Center for the needy. 4) Advent by Candlelight was a big success with a great performance by the choir, led by Christina Kuenzi 5) Bakery Booth and cinnamon roll sale 6) Country Christmas had higher attendance and more vendors than ever before. #5 & 6 proceeds are used to fund speakers, small group costs, etc.

Collaboration Team (aka Synergy) for St. James and St. Theresa's: (Kathy Scherbarth) 9 volunteers have been recruited for this team between the 2 parishes, including staff members. Six of the nine volunteers met on Monday to create a new mission to represent the collaboration efforts of the Joint Council. This mission will guide all decisions made at the council meetings. This team will be attending collaboration sessions in February, March, and May but this mission will be used moving forward:

"The Parishes of St. James and St. Theresa's are committed to work together to share the love of Christ as we accompany one another on our journey to become one with God."

Special Thank you: to Deacon Gordon for being in attendance tonight to show his support.

Future Collaboration Ideas: (Cheryl Marotta) 1) Maintenance to Mission seminar next year with a speaker from the Archdiocese for our staff, councils, committees, etc 2) Buildings and Grounds to make a common vendor list to be shared between the parishes to coordinate contractors used on projects. Bill Kirkman recognized the efforts of both parishes for their collaboration efforts and new committees forming.

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Father Loyola's Update: Father reviewed the following topics: 1) Thank you to all in attendance. He enjoys seeing the comradery between committees and councils. 2) Facility planning is done at St James and just starting at St. Theresa's 3) He felt very supported and welcomed at his Installation Mass 4) Special thank you for the dedication of all the chairs of committees, the Parish Leadership Team, and staff. Father feels the staff have been very supportive of the councils and committees and recognized their efforts.

Collaboration Efforts: (Father Loyola) Father would like collaboration to focus on the following ideas: 1) Committees at both parishes should mimic the work being done by Human Concerns and Stewardship as joint committees 2) Ask "What can we share together with our sister committees at the other parish?" 3) Outreach and share programs

Evangelization: (Father Loyola) Future efforts will include: 1) open up and build spaces at the parishes but focus must be on bringing people to us- reach out to our neighbors 2) a book will be available next year for committees to read and discuss on learning to collaborate. The book used examples of churches who have successfully collaborated so we can mimic their efforts rather than reinventing the wheel. The Sunday Liturgy should be **welcoming** (both parishes want expansion of the welcome area and Father recognized that other churches who have good attendance have these spaces where people can "hang out" and **vibrant** (choir and message must draw people in so we need to research how to make the Sunday experience more meaningful). This can take a few years and we should target certain populations such as the elderly, young people, young families, etc.

Father will be on vacation in India for an extended period: January 7-February 7, 2019. Please be sure to address issues prior to that time

Meeting adjourned: 8:00pm for Christmas party and fellowship.

Next meeting: January 3, 2019 at St. Theresa's 6:30pm

December 2018 highlights from Religious Ed:

- December 10/11 was Family Night. Families came together working with the Catholic Women to make items for the less fortunate. In the end over 60 care packages, 25 fleece blankets, 80+ fleece hats, handmaid Christmas cards and placemats. A portion will go to the Salvation Army for distribution to the homeless, and to the Human Concerns as well as
- December 15 we collaborated with St. Theresa's to celebrate 1st Reconciliation with over 50 students and their families
- December 17-19 RE held the annual cookie collection for "The Gathering" which was very successful

Looking ahead into 2019

- Working closely with the youth representatives on PPC and our liaison to continue building a youth ministry presence here at St. James that goes beyond religious education. A **strong emphasis** will be placed on building the Young Lives Ministry which includes researching what type of programming other churches and parishes offer that attracts their young adults, talking with the young adults and youth at St. James and St. Theresa, and building the YLM team to include youth and young adult representatives
- Continuing to empower the lay ministry to become leaders on teams and committees
- Working out the Religious Education bugs and expanding on what we've started
- Cultivating a culture of community and belonging between our youth and young adults so they have a sense of ownership and presence at St. James
- Collaborating more closely with St. Theresa's and to work with their PPC to establish common goals and mission between the 2 parishes
- Classes resume in January
- 9th/10th grade retreat is January 21st and the Confirmation retreat is January 25th/26th. The Net Ministries Team will be here to lead both retreats

Some recent inspiration:

- Christina and Jessie Brovold held a short campaign for new altar servers opening it up to 4th & 5th grade and were able to bring on 23 new servers in just a couple of weeks! I find this absolutely inspiring!
- Recently a parent/catechist let me know that after years of not attending mass his wife has been so inspired by Drew Yergens and the Sunday evening program that her faith is being revived, and she's coming back to church!
- At 1st Reconciliation this past Saturday one of the priests commented on how impressed he was at the number of parents who also received the sacrament that day as well
- Father has been visiting the students occasionally during class time which is having a very positive effect on the students as well as the catechists
- I have had several lay ministry volunteers express to me their initial fear of helping out with a certain task, but realized later that they DO indeed have leadership skills and would like to take on more tasks in the future. I believe this is progress!!