

ST PAUL PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2019; 5:30 pm

PRESENT: Father Pat Jakel, Martin Klostermann (Chairman), Derek Burns (Vice Chairman), Suzie Gallatin (Secretary), Shirley Bellm, Keith Koch, Marylin McDevitt, Jacob Rose, Mark Rosen, Monica Toennies, and Rose Wascher.

GUESTS: Dineen Czar (Executive Manager) and Libby Pappis (CCS Fundraising)

EXCUSED: Father Adam Pritchard

OPENING PRAYER: Father Pat led “Growing our Family; Growing our Faith” Campaign Prayer

MINUTES: The minutes were approved by consensus following a correction of the previous approved minutes, changing the month from October to November.

PULSE OF THE PARISH AND AFFIRMATIONS:

1. The Christmas decorations were beautiful this year was a comment from one of the council members and another parishioner commented that it was the prettiest year ever.
2. A council member commented that he particularly enjoyed the homily on the “lights” and how that tied into the beautiful lights on the trees.
3. Another council member noted that the previous weekend's homily was very thought provoking and she was grateful that it was included in Father Pat's Pen in the bulletin.
4. It was noted that the 4 pm Mass has many handicapped parishioners in the front pews and Father mentioned that there are more that are seated further back that might wish to be up closer. Father has some suggestions for alternative seating for the elderly that may work better, although he forgot to come back to that discussion during the meeting.
5. A council members attended all three weekend Masses and noted that there were large groups of children present for the children's homily. Father hopes this continues to grow.
6. A council members mentioned that she and others have enjoyed the Matthew Kelly book that was donated to parishioners. Fr. said he would mention this to the anonymous donor.
7. Another council member attended the Confirmation group meeting both this year and last, and where there were only 5-6 parents present last year, there were more than 20 present this year. The presentation of the information at the meeting was excellent.

FATHER PAT'S POINTS:

1. Father Pat stated that Father Adam continues to fully embrace his therapy in St. Louis and although he is anxious to begin ministry again, it is best that he not do so at this time.
2. Father reported that the tuck pointing project is a three-part project, with the first phase costing \$100,000 (already paid) dollars, the second phase, \$40,000 dollars and the third and final phase costing \$80,000 dollars. To date, we have collected \$48,000 toward the last two phases.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Father loves the new weekend Mass schedule and has noticed a number of new faces.
2. We have begun the weekly Mass count. Each mass has a primary counter and several subs to call if needed. Our past October counts were as follows: The first weekend of October of 2017: **1338**. The first weekend of October of 2018: **1134** and last weekend: **1369**.
3. We want to be a welcoming Catholic parish and are always looking for ways to promote that. The discussion of the “gathering space” in the renovation project is thought to be positive addition.
4. Father discussed the Church and School Building and Renovation project. There is an updated proposal to add on to Fr. Pat’s existing house. This addition would connect the house and the garage. Fr. Pat would continue living in the old part of the house and the new addition would include a suite (sitting room, bedroom, bath and closet) for a second priest and a guest room with an attached bathroom and closet. There would also be a common living room and dining room. The existing kitchen in Fr. Pat’s house would be a common kitchen. This is just a proposal but Father had been questioned by a number of people as to where he and other priests or seminarians would live with the building project requiring the demolition of the current rectory/parish office. The council agreed it looked like a feasible plan.
5. Father also reported on the new security system at the school. The security system includes 15 cameras, monitors in the school office and Viking Kid Care for viewing what is captured by the cameras. The cameras can also be viewed by designated staff members on the computers or smart phones. The two front doors of the school and the west door of the parish center can now be locked and unlocked by key, key fob, code or by a release button. This project has been funded by the Fund-a-Need at the Kirchenfest Auction and by a generous memorial. It is felt that we have increased the safety of our students tremendously.
6. Libby (CCS Fundraising) reported on the Capital Campaign. She stated that she is leaving and that Matthew Stoltz will be taking her place. They will work together for a week so the transition should be smooth. Libby noted that this has been a very positive experience for her and that the campaign is running very well. She is sad to leave but she has a lot of confidence in us and in Matt to continue toward our goal. The campaign remains in the leadership phase where Father and other volunteers are meeting with families to explain the plan and encourage financial participation. Anyone interested in helping with this phase of the campaign as a volunteer visitor, please do not hesitate to step up to help. There will be a volunteer meeting on January 29th at 5:30 to orient anyone interested in helping. The public phase of the campaign should kick off in March or April. We hope to have positive momentum established by then.
7. The cemetery building is nearly complete. Demolition of the old building is complete. There may be some plumbing and electrical work left to do, as well as planting grass in the spring.
8. The revised by laws were passed out. The council will read and be ready to discuss and finalize at the February meeting. Father added the Parish Vision and Mission Statements as well as non-consenting members from other parish committees.
9. Rose gave a report on the Pro Life meeting. Human Trafficking is a part of their mission. The first two weekends of January will host collections for Eden's Glory, who provides a two-year program for women over 18 years of age to transition back into society. That offering will be January 19/20 and 26/27 at all Masses. A basket at the baptismal font will be available for donations. There will also be a collection of Prairie Farms Milk caps to support this same cause. The March for Life will be held on January 18th with a Relevant Trivia Night also held on this same date at the KC Hall beginning at 6:30. It will be \$10 a person with 10 people at a table. In

February, there will be a blue jean collection for the St. Vincent DePaul in Soulard. Please bring jeans to the church or rectory. Boxes will be available for these donations.

10. The Annual Catholic Service Appeal continues with a pledged amount of \$91,000, toward our \$97,000 goal.
11. Martin reported on the Hospitality Minister's duties. He stated that he has been meeting with the group and there is an interest from several to attend the next AED training. Father mentioned it would be helpful for the Hospitality Ministers to open the doors in the back of Church, at Communion time, to facilitate the receiving of Communion.
12. The Hymn Board Monitor is still in the planning phase. This would be a temporary solution until the renovation of the sanctuary, where it is hoped to install large screens for the songs. We want the screens to be helpful to the congregation as well as done in good taste. An excellent example of tastefully installed screens can be seen at St. Joseph Church in Chatham, IL.
13. There were no Discipleship/Stewardship minutes to review this month.
14. The School Board minutes were reviewed. Father commented that the school board is concerned that parental involvement and desire to volunteer with projects has dropped. Like the Kirchenfest, it is harder to get the necessary volunteers. This will continue to be a topic of discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Catholic Schools Week begins January 27th.
2. KC Benefit Fundraiser is February 10 at the 10:30am Mass with Bishop Paprocki presiding.
3. There will be Wednesday evening Masses during Lent at 6:30.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 5:30.

CLOSING PRAYER: Father Pat led the recitation of the St. Paul Vision and Mission Statements.