

THE PARISH OF ST. EUGENE PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

In Attendance: Fr. Patrick Cahill, Deacon Mike Zboyovski, Richard Anderson (Chair), Julieth Duarte (Vice Chair), Sabine Dieringer (Secretary), Terry Yeager, Hamp Hampton, Ron Shigley, Eric Jedd, Deliz Romero, Susan Russo and Andrea Robles-Leon

Excused: Denise Cope

- **Meeting began with prayer**
- **Minutes** were approved except **Julieth's** comment that women should not become priests
- **Rich** thanked everyone for their general contributions and asked that an agenda be provided to him within two weeks of the next Council meeting
- **Susan** provided positive congregational feedback re: **letter to the Bishop** explaining that the final version focused on abuse issues rather than celibacy, etc.; **Rick Lober & Committee** will prepare further talking points; **Fr. Pat** is waiting for Bishop's staff to respond; **Rich** added that our older community's response was positive; apparently some national & international parishes either ignore or confront this situation; **Deacon Mike** suggested that every pastor should be informed of allegations & final outcome emphasizing "transparency across the board;" **Hamp** asked about the letter writing campaign & where is it going; **Fr. Pat** promised that an update would be announced in the bulletin
- **Fr. Pat** announced that during **Advent**, there will be ecumenical prayer service meetings beginning at **St. Eugene's November 28th at 6 pm** with a light meal & prayer meetings at **7 pm**; other hosts will be: **St. Mark's Lutheran Church on December 5th**; **St. Mary's Episcopal Church on December 12th**; & **St. Paul's United Methodist Church on December 19th**;
- **Fr. Pat** also announced that on November 26th the Christmas trees will be raised & asked for volunteers
- **Fr. Pat** also publicized a **Penance Service to be held December 22nd at 4 pm, 6 pm & 10 pm**
- **Deacon Mike** asked if the youth could be represented on the Council & **Fr. Pat** would ask the Campus Ministry leader if someone has an interest
- **Fr. Pat** thanked the Hospitality Ministers re: **Fr. Boyd's** retirement celebration – a booming success!
- **Andrea** is trying to retain Confirmation members in various church activities including raising funds for a middle school camp as well as a high school mission trip to Nashville next June 23-29 with 35 kids but **she needs chaperones!**
- **Hamp** told us about a family he encountered who needed shelter, food, etc. over a weekend and asked what the church's position is in such circumstances; **Deacon Mike** provided a card – to be posted in the Gathering Space – with various Asheville organizations, which would handle such an emergency; he also suggested contacting St. Vincent de Paul members; **Fr. Pat** suggested that these crisis calls should be referred to these Asheville resources; **Julieth, Deliz & Andrea** explained that the Hispanic community has a communications tool "WhatsApp" that is spread immediately when such a situation arises and the community responds with shelter, food, etc.;
- **Hamp** also talked about "partnering" with other faith communities impacted by natural disasters such as the East coast floods, specifically adopting a "sister parish" when help is needed; **Andrea, Eric & Ron** suggested getting in touch with the Raleigh Diocese, "Helping Hands," etc. & ask how can our Parish be helpful
- **Fr. Pat** asked that per the Knights' suggestion that the **Eucharistic Adoration be instituted during Lent beginning Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 9 pm after the last Mass ending 40 hours later on March 8th at 5 pm**; the Parish Council was encouraged to each spend an hour

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Minutes prepared and respectively submitted by Sabine Dieringer