

St. Thomas More Pastoral Council Minutes

June 12, 2018

Members Present: Fr. Hunke, Liz Fox, Abby Skradski, Joe Pesek, Monica Mora-Handlos, Connie Gewinner

Members Absent: Emily Boisseree, Travis Washington, Kelly Sobetski, Betty Piskorski

Opening Prayer: Fr. Hunke

OLD BUSINESS:

Fr. asked each of us on the council what we took away from Jim Jansen's talk at our last meeting. Fr. added, "the people we need to evangelize are the ones who are not in our church on Sundays or weekends." Some of the comments about Jim's talk were:

We need to do more to learn about our faith; programs to grow in the knowledge of our faith are needed other than RCIA.

What steps are next?

Jim did more listening than guiding. It is apparent we need to do something. What is step #1?

Some of us were surprised at the statistics.

Allan & Sharon Schumacher, Rick Fanciullo, Sr. Pauline and Theresa Gunia have been working on setting up the Alpha program here at STM.

Fr. said, we were **challenged to read**. The book recommended by Jim Jansen was "*Forming Intentional Catholics*" by Sherry Weddell. Also, "*Perfectly Yourself*" by Matthew Kelly. Fr. has been reading and suggested "*The Joy of the Gospel*" by Pope Francis. A thought was, we could be challenged by Fr. at Mass to read a chapter of a book, for example, "*Beautiful Hope*" recently passed out by the Knights of Columbus. The possibility of a book club was discussed.

WEEKEND MASS IN THE CAFETERIA: As this was the first weekend to have Mass in our temporary worship space; Fr. seemed pleased at how everything worked out. It got off to a good start. Greeters were present to keep the flow of parishioners getting to the cafeteria. It seems the elevator got a good workout. Another point was brought up to have bigger signs on the church to let people know Mass is being held in the school cafeteria. Flow at communion time wasn't smooth at 8am Mass. Fr. will announce that the people should come down the center aisle to receive Holy Communion and return by the side aisles.

Fr. commented that construction on the church is off to a good start, good progress is being made. Hope to have it completed by beginning of September.

NEW BUSINESS:

***FR. SCOTT HASTINGS:** Fr. Scott Hastings will be in residence at STM at the beginning of July.

***NEXT MONTH'S GUEST SPEAKER:** Fr. made the suggestion to have Joe Higgs from OTOC, Omaha Together One Community, speak at our next P.C. meeting. It was agreed upon. OTOC is an association of churches, all denominations in our community. Parish priests and pastors working together to tackle real issues in our community. They bring their concerns to the City Council.

***PROJECT FOR PARISH COUNCIL :** Fr. Hunke said the best effort of the Parish Council last year was the Parish Survey. What will be our next, new task?

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 24 at 6:30pm in the rectory.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Hunke

Respectfully submitted by Connie Gewinner