

St. Thomas More Pastoral Council Minutes

October 24, 2017

Members Present: Fr. Hunke, Betty Piskorski, Liz Fox, Monica Mora-Handlos, Abby Skradski, Travis Washington, Joe Pesek, Kelly Sobetski, Connie Gewinner

Members Absent: Emily Boisseree

Opening Prayer: Fr. Hunke

OLD BUSINESS:

***Calendar Sales** for 2018 was discussed. Council members will sign up for specific Masses to sell calendars beginning the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Abby will handle this.

***Archbishop's Annual Appeal:** STM reached 109 % of our goal with \$46,000 pledged gifts. Fr. said we were the 1st significant sized parish in the diocese to reach their goal. Job Well Done!

***Leadership Committee Meeting:** Abby reported there was at least one person from each school present. The issue of communication was identified as lacking. The issues seemed to be "skirted around; not answered head on."

***Sr. Pauline:** Positive outcome with her new program "Seeing God Through Tears." On All Soul's Day she will present a candle to the families whose loved one passed away since All Soul's Day 2016.

***Parish Organizational Fair:** At present Joe Pesek has received one call and one visit. Connie Johnson, representing the Perpetual Adoration Group, was the first to schedule – they will present the weekend of Nov. 12/13. Joe Pesek will put an article in the bulletin prior to each group's presentation. It was suggested to Joe to have a list of the various groups, along with their contact information, included in the bulletin.

***Bible Study:** Connie reported on the Bible Study at Holy Cross Parish. Total attendance from STM was 15. This number corresponds with the responses given in our parish survey. She will follow up with the attendance as the study progresses.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Feasibility Study is in progress.** It will last 6 weeks ending Dec. 1st. Parish Groups will interview first. The Planning Study Fact Sheet will be mailed out this week. The study will determine: *Can we afford the whole package? If not, what part of the package?* The Steier Group will recommend just what we can do. No dollar figure as yet, but somewhere between \$500,000 – \$1,000,000.

2. St. Thomas More Tapestry was professionally cleaned. The stain could not be removed. Liz Fox offered to take it home to see if she could resurrect it. Fr. told her she may try.

3. Ambo: Fr. would like to look into a new ambo. The current one doesn't fit the integrity of the church. He would like to have a company that specializes in wood build a new one similar to the previous one we had, however somewhat bigger to hold Fr.'s notes/books etc.

4. Welcoming for New Parishioners: Monica inquired as to what we are currently doing to welcome new parishioners. The Parish Secretary at present gives new parishioners a welcoming packet. Discussion followed. Fr. showed us a sample of what St. Charles Borromeo gives their new parishioners - a cloth bag with the church's logo filled with helpful things in it such as calendars, directories, cups etc. Monica, Betty and Kelly will spearhead this project. It was brought up that the Knights of Columbus may be asked to fund this project.

5. Bazaar Sponsor Board: Abby asked about the Bazaar Sponsor Board that is housed in the gym. She was told that bolts and pieces are beginning to fall from it. What should we do with it? Fr. said to ask Mr. Davis. Another suggestion was to talk to Mike McDonald about putting it with the Festival Stuff.

Next Meeting: Fr. suggested we skip the November meeting and have a brief meeting and Christmas Party on December 5th. Travis generously offered his new home in Ponca Hills for this event. Plans are to meet at the rectory. Travis, along with his daughter, will car pool us there. We are asked to bring some Hors d'oeuvres.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Hunke

Respectfully submitted by Connie Gewinner