



## PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

January 17, 2018

**Present:** Deacon Dan Ackerson, Connie Benko, Tom Carter, Father Cocco, Father Hanley, Pat Hearn, Dawn Huss, Marie Kopf, Rose Marie Patin, Deacon Jim Walls, Bob Wolhar

Rose Marie opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and Deacon Jim Walls offered the opening prayer.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the October 18, 2017 meeting were approved as published.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Father commented that the 4:00 Christmas Eve Masses were packed, and he suggested adding a 4:00 Mass at the school. Pat Hearn volunteered to explore the possibility of adding a Mass there. The 6:00 Mass was also full. The Crèche in the church drew positive comments from Parishioners, and there was a discussion on how to make it even better, with Father Chris and Marie offering some ideas. The new tabernacle has been well-received, and there was a discussion about moving the sanctuary candle closer to the tabernacle. Father Cocco suggested that the picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe in front of the previous tabernacle be replaced by the Divine Mercy picture.

**FINANCE COUNCIL:** The Finance Council met on January 16<sup>th</sup>, and the parish financial situation is very good. Father Cocco mentioned that there was a discussion regarding the generous amounts given by the parish to a number of local charities, and a question about the amount that is held in reserve. Father also mentioned that donations to some charities have been adjusted to be appropriate to their needs.

### FOLLOW UP ITEMS:

**Insurance:** There was an extended discussion regarding insurance issues, and it was concluded that non-parish organizations using the Hall and intending to serve alcohol need to obtain an insurance rider. Rose Marie added that the sale of alcohol requires a gathering license.

**Web Site:** Deacon Dan reported that the new web site is very close to completion and is targeting the end of January for going live.

**Parish Mission:** The mission presented by Father Brian Lewis in November was reported to have been very successful.

**Stewardship:** That was a discussion about Stewardship Sunday, and it was concluded that it needs more effective promotion.

**Minister Appreciation:** Several issues were discussed about an event to recognize parishioners (there are approximately 411) who contribute to the parish. These included a possible date, location, format, forms of recognition, and more, and it was decided to explore various options with an eye toward September.

## **MINISTRY REPORTS**

**BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE:** The Hall renovation is approaching completion, and it is possible that it will be re-opened by the end of January.

**LITURGY:** Connie reported that Lenten preparations are under way. She also mentioned that a Parish trip to Pennsylvania for April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> is planned. Venues visited will be the shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, and Philadelphia and others. The cost will be about \$300.00 per person.

**LRAC:** There was a discussion regarding ecumenical challenges in the mission of LRAC.

**SALT AND LIGHT:** Bob reported on several successful projects including the Baby Bottle program benefitting the Sussex Pregnancy Center, the Giving Tree, and the upcoming March for Life in Washington.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Marie reported that the Confirmation retreat for Ninth Graders is scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup> at Camp Arrowhead. She also mentioned that Souper Bowl of Caring will be on Super Bowl Sunday at all Masses, and the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry needs to be replenished.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm with the closing prayer by Father Chris.

**NEXT MEETING:** February 21, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Carter  
Secretary