



PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

September 27, 2018

Rose Marie opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and Father Cocco offered the opening prayer and a prayer for Pat Hearn. Father Solomon was welcomed to the Council.

Present: Deacon Dan Ackerson, Connie Benko, Tom Carter, Father Cocco, Dawn Huss, Marie Kopf, Deacon Pete Nellius, Susan Ondish, Rose Marie Patin, Father Solomon, Deacon Jim Walls, Bob Wolhar.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the May 17, 2018 meeting were approved.

PASTOR PRIORITIES: Father Cocco mentioned that the Minister Appreciation dinner scheduled for October 2nd is on track, and any Minister name not included in the Constant Contact invitations was unintentional. Deacon Dan suggested that the Ministry Scheduler Pro application be expanded to include additional ministries such as Lectors, Cantors, etc. Father Cocco is giving consideration to scheduling a Ministers meeting.

FINANCE COUNCIL: One of the Finance Council members has resigned due to a move to Florida, and a replacement candidate is being explored. The Parish is currently contributing about \$120,000 annually to various charities. The needs assessment of recipient organizations is continuing.

NEW BUSINESS: Rose Marie introduced information regarding a new Church directory, passing out examples of small and large directories. The consensus was that the smaller one is more desirable. The company under consideration will also provide annual updates. There was a discussion regarding privacy issues related to publishing of addresses and phone numbers.

“Rejoicing in the Lord,” the Diocesan 150th Anniversary commemorative book is available and the cost has yet to be determined.

A Convocation will take place on November 3rd in Ocean City. This event commemorates the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese, and 25 parishioners will represent St. Edmond Parish, which will include Ministry heads as available.

The Renewal of Vows prayer service is being scheduled for May 2019, an event which takes place at five year intervals.

Rose Marie mentioned the issue of preferences of Mass Presiders, and there was a discussion regarding the ringing of bells. Father Cocco would like there to be consistency in their use.

MINISTRY REPORTS

LITURGY: Connie shared details of the liturgical calendar, and reported that the Mission on November 11-13 will be led by Father Solomon.

FAMILY LIFE: Susan shared the Donut Sunday dates which are October 14th and November 18th. She also reported that dates of events for 2019 have been settled.

SALT AND LIGHT: Bob reported that 1,517 International Student Dinners were served by the Parish this summer. October is Respect Life month, and the Respect Life banner is going to be displayed in front of the church. There was a discussion regarding a joint effort with St. Jude Parish for the bus to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. in January. The KofC Grand Knights of St. Edmond and St. Jude Parishes will be meeting to explore this. From 2-4 PM on October 7th there will be a Life Chain on Route 1 in front of St. Jude Parish, and Life Vigils will take place in front of Planned Parenthood in Dover on Wednesdays in October. Bob is taking responsibility for the Good Samaritan program in place of Pat Hearn. The Community Resource Center is hosting a block party on October 20th.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Marie reported that there are 26 new students in religious education. She outlined a number of student activities, and also reported that Father Brian Lewis has asked students to contribute to a painting of Our Lady in Wilmington.

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE: The key fob system is working well, and there was a question about battery backup in the event of a power failure. Father expressed his satisfaction with the new awning over the handicap entrance. The Marian statue outside this entrance may be replaced with another, and development of a grotto is being considered as well.

Father Cocco reported that improvement of the steps at the church entrance is in the initial stages, but the first drawings did not meet his expectations. The Poor Box needs a new lock as the current one is not working well. Several trees have been removed recently, including one with roots that were creating a problem with the foundation wall below the sacristy.

LRAC: Dawn presented Pat's report, one item of which regarded the irregularity of an LRAC charity recipient.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm with the closing prayer offered by Father Solomon.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on November 14th, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Carter
Secretary