

Parish Pastoral Council Minutes November 20, 2018

Members Present: Fr. Ramon, Katrina Baumann, Fran Cautela, Mike DeBrosse, Roger Heckel, Jim Lehnerd, Lance Lewis, Angela Ray, Bill Rectanus and Irene Sze. By Audio (Phone): Kevin Stogran

Not Present: Celeste Guglielmi, Robin Racine

Guest: Fr. Mike Lumpe, Columbus Diocese, Vicar of Priests and Pastor of St. Joseph Cathedral

- I. Fr. Ramon's Report:
 - A. Father opened with the Lord's Prayer.
 - B. Father introduced Fr. Mike Lumpe, Vicar of Priests for the Diocese of Columbus

- II. Fr. Mike Lumpe discussed his background with the Diocese and he is currently the Vicar of Priests as well as the Pastor of St. Joseph Cathedral in residence. Fr. Mike explained that The Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC) religious order has been in the United States for the past ten years and came to Columbus about six years ago for placement into the Diocese hospital ministry. Fr. Mike advised that many factors were taken into account; a shortage of priests, a place for the order to grow in Ohio, assistance with the Diocese hospital ministry, and housing. Since many priests were retiring and St. Elizabeth had an opening due to Fr. Cotton's retirement, the Bishop, along with his council, appointed The Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception to St. Elizabeth Parish with one priest as the Parish Administrator and two other priests in residence at the parish rectory to handle the hospital ministry. The Diocese of Columbus and The Sons of the Immaculate Conception are under an Agreement with Superiors, like other religious orders within the diocese. It is common for order priests take a vow of poverty and any services rendered are paid to their Order. This is very common throughout most dioceses. St. Elizabeth is not the first parish for a religious order to administer. St. Patrick Parish currently has the Dominican order, and there are others. Fr. Mike confirmed that St. Elizabeth Parish still falls within all the Diocese of Columbus guidelines to which the Order must adhere. Fr. Mike advised that currently there are three diocesan priests on sabbatical, leaving four parishes open without Pastors; Our Lady of Peace, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Holy Rosary and St. Dominic. Fr. Mike stated that Fr. Paul Noble, Diocese Director of Vocations, is promoting vocations but he is also the Pastor at St. John Neumann. Active priests are serving in more than one capacity. Some parishes are clustered, one priest serving as Pastor at two or three parishes, sometimes celebrant at all those parishes Masses. It is a dilemma in how to cover parishes when there are not enough priests. Fr. Mike advised that the Bishop is up for retirement but no replacement has been found yet. In light of all this, Fr. Mike wanted to know if there were any further questions to the Diocese on this arrangement with St. Elizabeth Parish and The Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC). A parish council member stated that some parish members have heard that Fr. Ramon is leaving St. Elizabeth. Fr. Mike confirmed that Fr. Ramon was granted permission by our Bishop and the CFIC Superiors to be incardinated into the Columbus Diocese as a diocesan priest leaving the religious order (CFIC) effective October 1, 2018. Fr. Ramon will remain as Administrator at St. Elizabeth until the newly appointed CFIC priest arrives, pending the immigration process from Canada. Fran asked if we could share this information with the parish members so they are aware of this transition. Fr. Mike said we could but be reminded that there is no set date of the new CFIC priest's arrival due to the pending immigration process.

Bill asked for a vote from the council members if this announcement should be made known to the parish. All council members unanimously agreed that there should be an announcement made soon. It was further discussed by all to do this the First Sunday of Advent. Angela, Deacon Dean and Fr. Ramon met to draft a letter. This letter will be reviewed and distributed in the bulletin the same weekend as the announcement.

Bill stated that due to time restrictions of this meeting, some of the Agenda items will be tabled for our next meeting in December.

- III. Minutes of the October meeting were reviewed.
- Bill asked a for a special motion to approve
 - Approved with an unanimous vote by all

Old Business

- A. Parish Survey Update – Roger handed out the final draft of the survey. It was discussed to move forward with the survey to all parish members after the first of the new year.
- B. Ministry Fair / Liturgy Committee – Angela stated that the Ministry Fair was well attended but did not have any data as to how many new members signed up to serve. Angela will check with Lauren in the Parish Office to get that data. Angela reported that the Liturgy Committee has many activities for Advent. The Christmas Concert is back and scheduled for Sunday, December 9th at 3pm.
- C. Communication – Fran stated that we still have had no email correspondences from parish members. Fran stated she will keep checking the email account to see if there will be any comments on the upcoming announcement of Fr. Ramon.

New Business:

- A. Parish Plan Status Report – Lance handed out a summary of the Parish plan and accomplishments this term. Lance asked all to review and let him know if there are any corrections. It was discussed by all to continue to move forward with our Parish Plan.

Other Concerns, Comments & Suggestions:

- A. Angela suggested if some of the chairs be removed from the sanctuary in front of the choir area as it is very crowded in the aisle between the two, especially with the upcoming Advent activities and Christmas Masses. Fran also suggested that some of the chairs be removed from the (priest) north section of the sanctuary where there is the pillar and half wall as it becomes very congested during communion. Bill stated he will look into this with maintenance but there may be a problem of storage.
- B. Angela had questions from parish members about the ministry scheduler. The questions are how to figure out who other ministers are within the ministry to find substitutes. Could someone explain how this is supposed to work? Angela and Bill will inquire with the Parish Office.

Convened: 7:00PM

Adjourned: 8:37PM

Next Meeting: December 20, 2018 at 7PM