

The Church of the Transfiguration
Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
December 14, 2015

Attendance: Joey Campagna, Laura Cutter, Dave Donnelly, Gerry Gacloch, Shannon Kozarits, Craig Rand, Jane Valley, Lori Goorman, Trish Goodman, Ted Rohrer, Don Smith, Michael Bausch and Martha Jodoin.

1. The meeting was called to order by Craig at 7:40 p.m. following Advent prayer in the church.
2. All present introduced themselves.
3. The minutes of the October 12 meeting were approved.
4. Craig commented that he enjoyed the evening prayer and quiet time.
5. Open Forum – no parishioners addressed the Council.
6. Pastor's Remarks

Catholic Ministry Appeal is at 98.5%. Currently \$2,000 short of our goal. We are behind 2013 amount and number of donors. Last year every dollar pledged was collected.

CFC Gala – Fr. Mike and the parish are receiving the Partner in Philanthropy Award.

The gala will be February 5, 2016.

The Perpetual Charity Fund committee met and the money will be given as follows:

The R.E.A.C.H Emergency Shelter will receive \$7,500.

The Woodshop at St. Michael's will receive \$4,000 and

Saint's Place will receive \$2,250 for mattresses.

The Finance Council is pleased with Merrill Lynch where we have some of our funds but they are looking for another agency that is 100% socially responsible and gets a good return.

7. Agenda Items

Discussion took place about how to promote our family/parent education series. Suggestions included to provide more information about the program, who is invited to come, friends/non-parishioners, send out emails, post cards, use our Facebook page, show a trailer, use technology –Facetime, Skype, make/provide a video DVD for people to borrow if they can't attend.

Fr. Mike has six weddings scheduled and none of the couples live here so they do Pre-Cana online, which is a change on how we minister to couples.

Finance Council is working on a campaign fund to help with repairs for the roof and air conditioning.

8. Don Smith, Associate Director of Formation spoke about his job. The points he made included that
1) His personal goal is of formation rather than education including prayer, parish life, earning, and service. Not knowing Catholicism but being Catholic. There is a prayer room in the upper level of the Education Building.

2) Parents are the first catechists. Children's Formation is there to support the parents, not replace them.

3) Sacraments should be celebrations and low stress, including reconciliation. More parents are going to penance with their children during this sacrament.

4) The biggest goal is relationships – with parents, - with children – always notice the children and treat them as our family in faith. Formation is never ending.

9. Cluster Reports

Faith Formation – There will be a two week break for the holidays and then resume Jan. 10.

First Reconciliation took place and was beautifully celebrated. A number of parents and

grandparents chose to seek the Sacrament as well. First Communion starts up Jan. Celebrations will be the weekends of April 23-24 and April 30-May 1. This spring they will focus on inspiring families to consider how they participate at Liturgy and how they might deepen that participation through liturgical ministries or simply more regular participation.

Vacation Bible School will be July 11-15 and the theme will be the upcoming Summer Olympics.

Peace and Justice –The hand-off of the committee to Tim has gone well. Tim Morral plans to meet with the various peace and justice leaders individually during the first quarter of 2016. The potato supper will be Feb. 12. The parish distributed 130 Thanksgiving turkeys and are planning to distribute around 200 Christmas baskets. Sixty five still need sponsors. The Valle Verde team was forced to cancel the February trip to El Salvador due to regional security challenges. VanZile Travel Agency was able to get all of their money back. The team is continuing to raise funds for the new K-12 school. Construction on the school is already underway.

Youth – Twenty-one teens and six adults attended the National Catholic Youth Conference last month. It was amazing to see 24,000 teens on fire with their faith, and many of our youth had a profound conversion experience. Some teens shared their experience at Mass this weekend. Annual Search retreat will be March 4-6. All three of the regular teen formation programs (middle school youth group, senior high youth group, and Confirmation prep) are in full swing and are very well attended.

At this point in the meeting Fr. Mike was dismissed from the meeting. There was discussion about the CFC Mardi Gras celebration.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Jodoin