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## Parish Pastoral Council Minutes January 11, 2016

Attendance: Joey Campagna, Laura Cutter, Dave Donnelly, Gerry Gacioch, Maria Herrera, Shannon Kozarits, Craig Rand, G.A. Sheller, Lori Goorman, Tim Morral, Amy Azzara, Michael Bausch and Martha Jodoin.

1. The meeting was called to order by Craig at 7:05 p.m. Fr. Mike led the opening prayer.
2. All present introduced themselves.
3. The minutes of the December 14 meeting were approved with the correction that Tim Morral and not Trish Goodman attended the meeting.
4. Damian and Craig are meeting to discuss what we do at Transfiguration. The Catholic Courier will be doing an article on the parish. Our Council meeting in February is cancelled as there is no major issue to be considered.

### 5. Open Forum

A parishioner asked if Mass attendance could be put in the Bulletin. They are interested in knowing the figures. On average we have 1100 people attending mass. On Saturday's 250 attend, 500 at the Sunday 9:00 AM mass and 350 at the 11:30 AM.

### 6. Pastor's Remarks

- The Valle Verde School is paid for and is 60% complete. Food for the Poor is our go-between agency. We are asking for a list of proposed projects. Sunday's D and C has an article about gang violence in El Salvador.
- Catholic Ministry Appeal is at 105%. We did gain back some givers.
- Christmas Masses were well attended. Around 1100 attended the 3:30 PM Mass, 750-800 attended the 5:30 PM, and 500 at the midnight and 500 at the 10:00 AM. The collection was \$50,000+ and for the Sunday after Christmas it was about \$20,000. The decorating team is training new people to take over their role.
- Lenten speaker will be Fr. Bill Jarema, he was here in 2013. He will be speaking on "The Ladder of the Beatitudes". All morning sessions will be here as well as Wednesday evening. Monday evening will be at St. Louis and Tuesday evening at St. Catherine's.
- In 2018 the diocese will be celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The diocese was asking input as to whether there should be a financial campaign to celebrate it. There is no goal, just a concept. Our parish will be in the middle of raising funds for our new roof, heating and air conditioning systems. Instead of a campaign we should celebrate the gospel and what our diocese has accomplished.

### 7. Parish Issues

- The Lenten theme will be "Encountering God's Mercy...As we inwardly seek His mercy, do we hold dear those in need of our goodwill?" Pope Francis is calling us to do Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Corporal Works of Mercy are: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned and bury the dead. Spiritual Works of Mercy are: counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offenses, bear wrongs patiently and pray for the living and the dead. There will be four different Lenten books and cards distributed also.
- Marketing our Formation Programs – Ideas included advertising programs to other churches, hold up mailed brochure that has our programs in it when announcing programs to remind people of the brochure, use of weekly email, Facebook, social media. Put article in Post publications – Pittsford and Henrietta Post papers.
- Ministering to young families – suggestions included having a kid's corner in the bulletin or a coloring page. Families are busy, hard to find time.

### 8. Staff report

Margie Benza reported that she has been on staff for 10½ years. She journeys along with everyone. Some of the things she does are coordinates liturgy, offers reflections, pastoral presence on weekends, does the schedule for liturgical ministers, recruits and trains acolytes, does visitation to sick and dying, coordinates funerals, pastoral counseling, Grief share programs, bereavement programs, Highlands Ministry, Women in Spirit, Peace and Justice, Christmas Baskets, Potato supper. She also goes to development conventions, takes courses at St. Bernard's and goes on a six-day quiet retreat. Margie was thanked for all she has done for Transfiguration during her 25 years with the parish.

### 9. Cluster Reports

**Liturgy** – Portable door as an ongoing visual sign based on the Pope's opening of the Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica on the feast of the Immaculate Conception. A Catholic Church ritual that has been performed since the 1500's and only open during a special year designated by a Pope called a Jubilee Year. Christmas was a joyful celebration of Jesus birth at all Masses with beautiful music.

**Christmas Basket Program** - 202 families referred by different agencies and parishioners were provided with a Christmas meal and small gifts. 133 families were sponsored by individual families and 69 sponsored by the parish.

- Fr. Mike added that he and Margie get emergency requests during the year from individuals.

**Pastoral** – Fourth Grief Share support group begins Jan. 13. Margie visited Third Presbyterian Church and Asbury Methodist last week to share the Grief Share program with their leaders.

- Women in the Spirit met in Dec. and Jan. with good attendance and thoughtful participation.

**Peace and Justice** – Potato Supper will be Feb. 12. Featured speaker will be Sr. Grace Miller from the House of Mercy.

- Portland Avenue revitalization project is winding down. Construction to transform the Portland Avenue streetscape is slated to take place in April. The team is working to strengthen the neighborhood and business associations before we step away from the project completely.
- John Greve is stepping down as the coordinator of RAIHN (Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) at Transfiguration. Roger Corea has agreed to serve as the new coordinator of this important ministry to homeless families.

### **Formation**

- Adult Formation – There is a two night discussion program on Parenting Teens in January.
- A new module for Women's Bible Study, Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible begins this month. It is an 8 week session with more than 30 attendees registered for participation.
- Children Formation – Classes have started again and the classes end May 16 and 17.
- First Communion information meeting was held. Only a small handful of students who did not complete their first Reconciliation preparation in the fall. The transition to a new order for the
- Confirmation preparation has only 3 more Sunday sessions remaining this year. This year's candidates will continue next year and be confirmed in spring 2017.
- Plans are underway for VBS 2016. Our theme is Faith Olympics, and we will look at a different summer Olympic event each day and relate them to our faith.
- Youth – The annual Search retreat for high schoolers will be March 4-6 and the theme will address the Year of Mercy.

10. After closing prayer Fr. Mike and Margie were dismissed from the meeting. There was discussion about the CFC Gala. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martha Jodoin