

**Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council**  
**February 22, 2016**

**Present:** Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Mary Karls, Don Holmes, Leo Schneider, Maureen Stoelb, Jeanne Bitkers, Jane Kautzer, Steve Straus, Peter Bergman, Jane Watry, Eileen Diener, Bill Linn, Roy Sellars, Steve Scharrer

**Guests:** Barb Vite, Vince Karls, Carla Dirks, Pam Duessing, Pat Schmidt

**Unable To Attend:** Ken Sedmak

1. The opening prayer was led by Peter Bergman.
  
2. Barb Vite, from the Archdiocesan Office, gave a presentation on doing a Parish Assessment regarding Stewardship. This process would invite members of the Pastoral Council, the Finance Council, all standing committees, and Parish Staff to participate in assessing the needs of our Parish in the areas of:
  - ★ Spiritual and Physical Environment
  - ★ Parish Worship
  - ★ Stewardship Formation and Education
  - ★ Communications Tools
  - ★ Gratitude
  - ★ Time and Talent
  - ★ Financial StewardshipThe resulting data is collected, correlated and returned to the Parish in the form of a written plan that recognizes the history, personality and needs of our Parish. This plan would include goals for our Parish to work toward to improve all aspects of Parish life.  
After discussion, it was decided that we will continue to pursue this subject at our next meeting.
  
3. A parishioner commented that the parking lot was icy after some recent bad weather. We contract with an outside vendor to clear snow and ice on the premises and they are not always able to respond to rapidly changing weather conditions. In addition; the ushers should know where salt and deicer products are stored and apply them as needed. Dave Leonard also watches weather patterns and applies these products as indicated. It is extremely difficult to keep all areas ice and snow free during inclement weather.  
Another parishioner commented that we have too few “Handicap” parking spaces. Ordinances specify that 3% of all spaces at a facility shall be labeled as “Handicap, Only”. In the case of St. Dominic, with about 42 total spaces, this would equate to 2 spaces. We have 6 marked spaces. Unfortunately, with the numbers of elderly attending St. Dominic, we are frequently faced with the fact that we could have many more handicap spaces and would still not have enough.
  
4. In his Pastor’s Report, Fr. Phil stated that a Parish Assessment and Plan may not support current Parish initiatives, such as Intentional Discipleship and Evangelical Catholic, at this time.

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5. Due to time constraints, discussion of the January Synod Newsletter will be held over until the March meeting.
6. Steve Straus gave the Finance Report. Income continues to fall below projected levels; however expenses have also been lower than anticipated so that our net operating income actually shows a positive balance, not a deficit. The Finance Council has begun drawing up a budget for the 2016/2017 fiscal year. Preliminary figures show a deficit of \$10,698. Mass attendance numbers have been flat.
7. Upcoming Parish elections were discussed; Don Holmes will chair the elections committee. Their work needs to begin in early March to ensure timely elections by the end of May.
8. Committee Reports:
  - A. Evangelization – no report
  - B. Seton School – The School Mission Statement is being reviewed for possible revision, students are being asked to do volunteer service, the principle would like to reestablish student council for the 2017/2018 school year, enrollment should be up next year, both tuition and parish assessments will be higher, the Marketing and Development functions of the school are being split, and the Scrip Program is once again functioning, with process changes.
  - C. Stewardship – about 360 pledge cards have been returned, they will need a new chairperson for the Fall Festival, there could be some changes to this year's Festival, the "Time and Talent" weekend is being planned in April and they hope to publish a new Parish Directory in 2018.
  - D. Prayer & Worship – two new cantors are in training, we desperately need more media ministers, the "Open Mic" event on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday has been well attended, the Valentine's bake sale was a huge success, "Scout Sunday" will happen on March 6 at 10:30 Mass, the confirmation retreat went well
  - E. Human Concerns – the Elizabeth Ministry will once again do the Mother's Day flower distribution, "Rainbow Kids" is restructuring their program to include those who have family members in prison, are coordinating several Lenten charitable collections, and will provide the soup for the March 8 Lenten program. Human Concerns also wishes to do the Valentines' Day bake sale again next year.
  - F. Cluster Planning – are determining which parish committees are meeting at the cluster level, are developing a cluster "logo", and are re coordinating a 24-hour prayer event from 5:00 PM on March 4 to 5:00 PM on March 5.
  - G. Faith Formation – no report
9. Council member are reminded to sign up for the [dynamiccatholic.com](http://dynamiccatholic.com) "best Lent ever" program.

Our next Executive Committee meeting will be on Thursday, March 10, at 6:30 PM.

Our next Council meeting will be on Monday, March 28, at 6:30 PM.

The prayer leader at that meeting will be Jane Watry.

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Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider