

St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic Church

Thursday January 18, 2018 7:15 p.m. (Church Office) - Pastoral Council Meeting

Members present: Deidre Acord, Carlos Alpuche, Michael Arguello, Cody Baker, Catherine Cardenas, Fred Galindo, Loretta Lozano, Joyce Pulich, Rafael Riojas, Tony Slagle, Fr. John Dougherty, Fr. Dennis Strach

Members absent: Jose Maia, Dorcas Rockwell

Guests: Julian Druffner, CSC and Cathal Kelleher, CSC

Opening reflection - Raphael Riojas read the daily reflection from the Holy Cross Traditions "The Cross, Our Only Hope."

Review of the minutes - Minutes from the July 13 meeting were reviewed and approved. Fr. Dennis will make sure they are posted on the website and in the church foyer.

Pastor's report - Following introductions, Fr. John reported on his first two weeks in the parish. He has been meeting with staff and visiting the school and ministry meetings. He is impressed with attendance at mass. He is planning a renewed focus on stewardship in the coming year.

Fr. Dennis reported on parish events since the last council meeting in July.

- Rosa Bejar, the new Children's Religious Education Director is doing a good job with the program.
- Fr. Dennis has been meeting monthly with Finance Council Chairperson Ann Zigmund to review the church and school financial reports.
- Fall Fest and the parish garage sale netted \$42,000. He noted that some parishioners have expressed a desire to change Fall Fest. Deidre Acord and Carlos Alpuche provided some information about past fall fests and galas.
- Fr. Dennis said that a liturgical architect has been doing pro bono work on ways to improve the church. Efforts continue to clean and organize the church storage areas.
- New Spanish hymnals have been ordered.
- Due to a robbery at the food pantry earlier in January, all the buildings are in the process of being rekeyed.
- The Diocese-funded campus master plan contains different scenarios for the church annex and use of available open space. There may be an opportunity for the food pantry to move to the Twin Oaks shopping center recently purchased by HEB and locate with other service providers. That would free up the current food pantry location for redevelopment.
- Michelle Fontana and Fr. John are looking at a new e-giving platform because of many problems and poor customer service.

Capital Campaign Update - Fr. Dennis reported that seventy percent of the pledges have been collected. He reported on the work of the renovations committee and gave specific examples of improvements to the church and other campus buildings. The next phase of the campaign will focus on more visible projects.

St. Ignatius School report - Fr. John said that Interim Principal Fred Valle has already completed the draft 2018-2019 school budget. He is starting some innovative programs such as a robotics club. The school is in good financial shape. Fr. John plans to actively promote the school at St. Edwards and at state agencies in an effort to increase enrollment.

Youth Ministries - Catherine Cardenas reported that the spring semester program has started. Many students have signed up for the Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference in Waco in February. Confirmation

classes will continue in February. Fr. John and Fr. Dennis attended the last Sunday evening meeting and plan to continue doing so.

Pastoral Council membership and election of officers - Several parishioners were discerning about joining the council when meetings stopped in July. Deidre Acord and Joyce Pulich will update the list of members and their terms of service to present at the next meeting. Election of officers will follow dates set up in the bylaws.

Parish Mission Statement - The draft revised mission statement was emailed to ministry leaders last summer. Tony Slagle will gather any comments he received and present them at the next council meeting. The draft reads as follows:

"St. Ignatius Martyr strives to be an active parish through liturgy, education and service. In the tradition of the Congregation of Holy Cross, we make God known, loved and served by our prayers and actions."

St. Ignatius Strategic Plan - The draft plan was distributed to Council members. Tony will arrange a meeting with Fr. John, Fr. Dennis, and Joyce to review and work on it prior to the next council meeting.

Open forum and discussion - Deidre suggested a survey covering fall fest, the gala, the school and other issues would give parishioners an opportunity to provide feedback. Tony will place ACTS retreats on the agenda for discussion at future meetings. The next meeting scheduled for February 15 may be held at one of the member's home to enhance our working relationships.

Closing prayer - Fr. John led the council in prayer.

Future meetings: 02/15, 03/22 (possibly joint with Finance and school principal), 04/19, 05/17, 06/21.