

## Collaborative Parish Council (CPC) Meeting

October 3, 2022, in person at Sacred Heart

Kate Neal - Moderator

In Attendance: Fr. Dan, Kate Neal, Gina Chaimanis, Hannah Smith, Beth Tango, Isabella Dugan (youth representative OL), Charlotte Storey (youth representative SH), Monica Pacheco-Tougas, Nick Frega, Paul Hurney, Anne Marie David, Tom Morrison, Peg Miller, Erica Johnson, Kathie Long, Elizabeth Micci, Ginny Arpino

Visitors: Peter Metz, Barbara Allaire, Ann Capoccia

### Updates from Fr. Dan:

- Priest Coverage: Fr. Bill Murphy is needed at other Parishes. Fr. Piotr, SJ has completed his studies and returned home. Current Boston College Jesuits in the rotation include Fr. Bart, Fr. Juan, Fr. Vaclav (newly ordained!), Fr. Michal. Fr. Mike Steele retired diocesan priest may cover when necessary.
- Deacons: Deacon Bill Koffel on Staff and Jesuit Deacon James Antonio
- Fr. Dan expressed his sincere appreciation to staff and parishioners for all of the hard work and participation that went into the Fall events including: Picnic, Tea party, Name tag Sunday, Faith Sharing and the start of Faith Formation.

### Visitor Presentation:

Monica introduced an agenda presentation by Peter Metz, Barbara Allaire and Ann Capoccia about Catholic Movement towards Nuclear Disarmament and how collaborative can be involved:

Peter reviewed the Mid May 2022 forum sponsored by the Pax Christi Committee featuring Bishop Wester and Dr. Ira Helfand as the two principal speakers.

Peter outlined the threat that nuclear weapons are to humankind's existence - a small nuclear war would have devastating effects on humankind and the environment by cooling the earth's temperature causing starvation of millions. A large nuclear war would wipe out humankind.

The Church teaches that the possession of nuclear weapons, even for deterrence, is immoral, as a final state for the world. We must work to achieve a world with no nuclear weapons. Ultimately, the possession of nuclear weapons is immoral. Deterrence is not an acceptable final state.

The threat from nuclear weapons is increasing as more nations have attained them.

Pope Francis is seen as a guiding light creating the Treaty of Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons signed by the Holy See. It calls for the total elimination of nuclear weapons as they pose an existential threat to humanity and the environment.

Peter went on to outline the role of the Catholic Church indicating that a ground swell of interest could happen if only 10% of the 1.2 billion Catholics in the world took up this cause. The group sees President Joe Biden as the best hope, calling him principled and referencing his career in dealing with the dangers of nuclear weapons. How do we bring this cause to him?

Barbara shared that the original webinar is on the Collaborative Website. Barbara too, reinforced the feeling that leadership from a credible leader may draw others to this cause.

Ann brought up the fact that nuclear industry is very powerful and wants to stay that way. She shared the strategy that the jobs and funds of the nuclear industry can be shifted to the topic of climate change and the preservation of our world –

At the conclusion of this presentation, discussion surrounded what we, as a community of faith might do. While no decisions were made, the following ideas were surfaced by members of the council.

- Utilize bulletin as an opportunity to educate parishioners
- Look on this issue as a respect for life
- Continue the dialogue – how do we get the 9 powerful countries to the same table to talk
- It is not just a catholic issue – it is a human issue. Work with other faiths and groups
- Challenge nuclear industries (e.g., Raytheon) to do what the US needs
- Utilize social media – accumulate signatures – bring to the cardinal, grow the cause.
- Encourage people to read the pastoral letter- point out action items on page 42
- Educate the youth – have speakers for the confirmation classes
- Banner in front of the church w/ Pope's position on nuclear disarmament
- Prepare video messages

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- Two new initiatives honed and introduced to the collaborative during the summer months:
    - Ignite Ministry – to encourage involvement in the parish and ignite people in their faith.
      - How do we meet people?
        - Calling all extroverts in the collaborative...outreach!
        - Have a booth at the Harvest Fair to meet and welcome the community
        - Conversations during coffee hour
        - Speaking to people before or after mass
      - All with the joy and enthusiasm that comes from living our faith
      - Looking to instill energy in what we do.
    - Social Media Ministry
      - More pictures and videos of the great things that are happening
      - Meet with ministry heads – have them convey their vision
      - Utilize flock notes to get the word out about what is going on
      - Keep the website a current, user-friendly tool
      - Goal to have 1000 Instagram followers by Christmas

So much to be excited about:

- Attendance after covid is on the upswing.
- Religious Ed is off to a great start with many excellent teachers and Hall monitors...over 400 students across the collaborative.
- Music Ministry in both parishes...Adult Choirs, Children's choir, Bell Choir, Contemporary Choir
- Faith sharing groups - #'s are up from last year.
- Bulbs: another planting (possibly 10/23) to enhance the beauty of the parish grounds.
- Youth Ministry is off to a great start.
- Young Adult ministry (20's – 30's) is a new ministry generating interest.
- Many thanks to Kate for taking the leadership role in these new ministries.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 29, 7pm on Zoom