

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

May 2, 2017

The meeting started at 6:35 pm.

Present: Father David Burgard, Father Louis Lapeyre, Hugh Acosta, Donna Banker, Gay Criscio (Chair), Fred Fedorowicz, Heather Hall, Doug Kuras, Jim Peltier, Bernie Smith (Vice-Chair), Jack Ready (representing Finance Council)

Absent: Tim Anteau,, Richard Janssens, Frank McAuliffe, Lorie Bronson, Lorie Holden, Anne Zochowski

Mission Statement: St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, a Catholic community of faith, proclaims Jesus Christ through prayer, worship, celebration of the sacraments, ongoing care for those in need, lifelong faith formation and stewardship of our time, talents and treasures.

Vision Statement: To Welcome. To Inspire. To Transform. To Serve.

Opening Prayer: Bernie Smith

Opening Prayer for June Meeting: Heather Hall

Minutes: The March 2017 minutes were approved at the May 2, 2017 meeting. Motion by Fred and seconded to be accepted by Doug, all approved.

Formation/Enrichment:

Father David spoke about CSA and the message that the Arch-Bishop has sent to be played to kick it off. Since we are well into the CSA it is not necessary to play the video for the whole congregation, but he did share this with the PPC. Father spoke of all of the value in the support received through the CSA. Father David encouraged the council to be leaders and spread a positive witness to the services and value to CSA and the use of the funding. A question was posed about the parish having an opportunity to be supported through CSA funds. Father David explained that there are applications for such grants from CSA, and that it is based on the need, situation, and financial standing of the parish/school sending the request. He stated that there is a breakdown of the spending of the income from CSA available from the arch-diocese. Father also explained that they create the CSA target by looking at what they did last year and the overall performance/need of the arch-diocese. Any overage this year is designated for a set-aside refurbishment of the parish organ.

Vicariate or Archdiocesan Report:

Vicariate: There was a vocation mass on the 25th. The spirit of giving is moving to a heated and electrified area at the IHM. Father Louis spoke to the vicariate committee extensively about the jail ministry. There was no report from Hispanic ministry, the vicar, or schools. The vicar will be leaving for a teaching ministry at the seminary effective July 1st. No replacement has been named yet.

The Arch-Bishop will have a letter/message at Pentecost in regards to the synod and the new evangelization initiative. 5 men will be ordained priests on June 3rd for the

arch-diocese. There are some priest transitions and new assignments in the area, and all will be in place officially on July 1, 2017. Father Bob returned today.

Commission Reports:

Christian Service: Fred was unable to attend and minutes are not complete

Worship: No meeting

Stewardship: Hugh stated that the parish grounds crew are moving forward with ground preparation for the spring. Concerning the church doors, 3 estimates were received and Hugh will be meeting with the door representative with one of the companies. Hugh will also be meeting with Weddells Canvas and Awning. Hugh stated that he has discovered some issues to consider when making this purchase. One is the effect of the elements on the doors in regards to full sun exposure. The committee is exploring ways to address this whether with providing shade or some sort of relief from the elemental effect. Hugh presented an approximate photo representation of the possible replacement doors. This was provided to give the PPC an idea of what the committee is considering as door options. Hugh also shared pictures of more ideas for the doors that depict other possible options. The committee is thinking about stained as opposed to painted and would like to start with a lighter stain as it will continue to be darker as it is re-stained over the years. Glass and fiberglass door options are also being discussed. The weight of the doors, weather-proofing, barrier free issues and making the doors a power assist opening option, and vandalism issues in regards to fixing the damage, were discussed and will be brought back to the committee. The committee is still in a planning and data collection stage. The analysis process should be completed with estimates sometime within the next 4-6 weeks. There will be approval time and deliberation. After that there will be production time and installation time. The point was raised that the current doors need to be painted and the security factor addressed. It was suggested that the painting and security upgrades should be done and not be put on hold until new doors are implemented.

Finance: Parish council wants to know if the vicariate has reimbursed St. Mary for the Hispanic Ministry functions. No reimbursement has been made. Have an update for next meeting. The water in the parish hall was tested by the city and there were no problems found with the water. Once the water was run for a while, the water ran clear. There was a report on capital expenditures included in a recent Chronicle. The third rooftop unit on the school and the resurfacing and paving of the willow street lot request will be sent forward. The last sound system quote came in. There are 3 quotes. The first two were in the \$40,000 range and the third came in around \$50,000. It was suggested that perhaps a U of D Mercy graduate student in engineering or architecture be recruited to do an acoustical analysis of the church as a research topic. It was stated that the church has a healthy reserve and the goal is to maintain a healthy reserve while fairly processing all requests that are being explored. Because of the turnover of the finance manager the budget deadline with the arch-diocese has been extended. The current interim finance manager has now agreed to be permanent.

Old Business:

Gatekeepers: It was decided that if a presentation takes place, it should be to all three parishes. The three parishes will decide if this is something they wish to pursue.

Vision Rollout:

Goal Setting-Subcommittee There was a meeting which resulted in the plan to form a subcommittee. The current committee is looking for a representative from each council, and an additional member from the PPC. With representation from each group there will be an overall plan formed.

Sound System Proposal: see finance report

Children's Offertory Envelopes: Father David reported that a few have been distributed.

***Action Item:** Report on status of the goal setting subcommittee.

New Business:

Father Louis Reception-June 11, 2017: It was proposed that this reception be done from 10:30-1:30 in the PLC. The hospitality team and the Christian Women will be asked to assist with the reception. It was suggested that let these groups meet and plan the reception, and in turn, they will reach out to the other committees.

Associate Pastor-Reception in August-Father John Simoneau has been named the new associate pastor for St. Mary's.

Stevens Ministry-This is a work in progress and will be addressed in the next meeting

Committee to maintain grounds (John Raymond)-The stewardship commission is looking into arranging for more help, headed by Patrick Fox.

Habitat Build-May 20th-The May 20th date and location of the build may be influenced by the recent rains. Fred will check with Habitat for an update. Sign-up sheets will be offered after mass in the upcoming weeks.

Member comments/concerns:

The PPC selection is typically done on or near Pentecost, June 3 & 4, or June 11 & 12. Jim, Tim and Frank's terms will be up. Father David encouraged the PPC to make personal invites and also recommend that they inform those interested that he is available to speak to them or answer their questions. Father asked that we pray for all first communicants and confirmation candidates. He also asked for prayers for those in the seminary. The eight week scripture series began last week and approximately 75 people from all three parishes signed up to participate.

The high school youth ministry meets weekly in the SMCC campus ministry room. There have been many efforts in reaching all youth in Monroe.

St. Joseph Cemetery memorial mass on Memorial Day, is at 10:00 am with Father Phil presiding.

Next PPC Meeting- June 13, 2017

Closing Prayer- Father David

Respectfully submitted by: Donna Banker, Recording Secretary