

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
11 January 2018

Present: Father Dennis, Jodee Tlachac, Joel Vandendriesche, Jerry Buting, Meg Anderson, Kathy Hoffman, Chris Norton, Jeff Sladky, Mario Montalbo, Matt Bruce, Jim Palzewicz via phone

Excused: Father John, Mark Otten

1. Opening Prayer: Chris
2. Review December Meeting Minutes:
  - a. Minutes approved by consensus
3. Christmas Mass Feedback:
  - a. Those in attendance in Marcy Center for 4:30 Mass overflow commented on a lack of prayerfulness and reverence.
  - b. Options to mitigate this problem:
    - i. Include a cantor and/or service leader in the Marcy Center to make the attendees more engaged and part of the Mass.
    - ii. Relocate the Marcy Center overflow to the PAAC.
    - iii. Add an extra Mass – thus have 4:00, 5:30, and 10:00 Masses.
    - iv. Add a full Mass (not live televised feed) to the PAAC, simultaneous with the 4:30 Mass in the Church.
4. 2018 Auction “Raise your Paddle”: School Signage:
  - a. Experience illustrates that when the goal is specific/concrete, as it was 4 years ago, there is a lot of financial support. When it is vague/general, however, it is not as productive, as was the case 2 years ago.
  - b. This year’s goal is to raise money for a lit sign on the North side of the building to identify it from Capitol Drive.
5. Amazing Parish:
  - a. The details remain the same and we await further information from the archdiocese.
6. “One Thing”:
  - a. 5 Questions to consider:
    - i. What would have greatest positive impact on St. Dominic right now?
    - ii. What would help create more disciples?
    - iii. What would help the commissions work together?
    - iv. What would garner the greatest involvement from people?
    - v. Given that this is the first time we are trying this, and we are testing out the machinery, what would be simple to do versus complicated?
  - b. 5 Areas to consider:
    - i. Hospitality
    - ii. The Weekend Mass
    - iii. Sacraments
    - iv. Outreach/Social Justice
    - v. The Eucharist
  - c. Each member took 30 seconds to justify his and her selection:
    - i. Chris: Sacraments
      1. He discussed how they are the essence of our faith.
    - ii. Meg: Hospitality

1. She commented that the Sacraments, namely the Eucharist, are the nucleus of our identity as Catholics; but first we have to get people to come and stay before we can move to the next step.
- iii. Jeff: Hospitality
  1. He recalled how the podcast of the plain-clothed priest who visited different churches highlights the effectiveness of people's feeling invited.
- iv. Father Dennis: The Sunday Mass
  1. Hospitality, to him, has so many connotations. It involves all of the other ideas, commissions, and in-and-outs of the parish. However, there is no confusion about the Sunday Mass; no one would ask, "what do you mean by 'the Sunday Mass?'"
- v. Jerry: Hospitality
  1. He recalls when they moved here and they "auditioned" parishes; he remembers the welcoming feeling he received from both the parish and school.
- vi. Jodee: Sacraments
  1. She feels like we are already doing the inviting part well and we must focus on the Sacraments, what makes us Catholic.
- vii. Matt: Sacraments
  1. He made the point that the people who were at "Pizza with the Pastor" are likely ones who are already involved and feel invited. I.e., if an individual does not feel good about St. Dominic's, he or she is not going to attend "Pizza with the Pastor." He believes we need a good "product" (Sacraments) in order to pitch it (Evangelization).
- viii. Joel: Sacraments
  1. He senses that everything else is working well.
- ix. Kathy: The Sunday Mass
  1. She asserted that it is where we receive Jesus, which is the core and essence of our faith. Her goal is to get people to understand how important Mass is; the Sacraments are a bi-product of people's becoming deeper in their faith, and this can occur if they have a positive Mass experience.
- x. Mario: Hospitality
  1. He felt welcomed by TMIY and Bible Study. People invited him. That made him more likely to participate in the Sacraments and Mass.
- xi. Jim: Hospitality
  1. He called it "Invitation." He believes it is the simplest area on which to concentrate, especially given this is the first time we are trying this. This would most impact the culture here: how we think about what we do here; getting people to WANT to participate. This is also the first initiative that came out of the Synod; thus there are resources in place already that can guide us.
- d. Discussion determined that for the council members who supported the Hospitality initiative, they are all working with the same language, which means a more hospitable Mass experience; thus the term should not include a connotation or assumption of hospitality throughout the whole parish.
- e. From the previous discussion, it was determined that those in favor of hospitality viewed it as commensurate or synonymous with the Mass experience.
- f. Also from the previous discussion, it was determined that those who favored the Sacraments as an area of focus understood it as a necessary part of the Mass.

- g. Thus the emerged agreed-upon concentration: The Weekend Mass Experience.
  - h. Jim's suggested next step: By January 25, each of us should e-mail our thoughts to Mario on what we would like to see included in a white paper that we could share with other commissions.
    - i. Use the guiding questions on the board.
    - ii. Include some bullet points of what this would look like.
7. Issues:
- a. March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Confirm attendance for retreat.
  - b. Consider whom you want to discern for PC for next year.
  - c. Finance Council has requested our direction for our PC budget needs: we can base that request on our "one thing" selection and plan.
8. Closing Prayer: Chris

Meeting adjourned: 8:19

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Anderson, Pastoral Council Secretary