

St. John the Evangelist Parish

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - Minutes

Fr. Michael Williams – Pastor – ex officio
Myron McCormick – Finance – ex officio
Marie Bardswich – St. John's
Sue Quackenbush – St. John's
Barb Pineau – St. John's

Pamela Schofield-Adams – St. John's
James Murphy – St. John's
Sheila Lapierre – St. John's
Trudy Hinds – St. Bernardine's

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, December 6th @ 6pm in the Parish Hall

PRAYER We prayed a decade of the Rosary together

Following this, the PPC met to discuss the following pastoral issues:

OLD BUSINESS:

(1) Advent Giving Tree

(2) Parish Dinner

NEW BUSINESS:

(3) Christmas Memorial Flowers

ONGOING BUSINESS:

(4) Social Concerns, Worship, Future Planning, Youth, Pastoral Care, Faith Formation & Spirituality

(5) Parish Financial Update

Re (1): All 23 tags were taken by Parishioners, and an additional 19 tags were put out on Sunday. Of those, about 5 were taken. We will see if there are any tags left after Mass this Sunday. If not, then it will mean each child will receive 2 gifts, and the 4 adults will receive one gift each. So far, we have 6 volunteers for wrapping the gifts on December 17th. We can use some of the knit clothing items made by the CWL to supplement the gifts, as needed.

Re (2): After a lengthy discussion of various options, it was decided to make the Parish dinner on Sunday, February 11th a **Parish Appreciation Dinner**. Any Parishioner who contributes their **TIME, TREASURE, or TALENTS** to the Parish will be invited. It will be a chicken and pasta dinner.

It turns out the Caruso Club is closed on Sunday, so we will need to find another source for the food. East Side Marios was one suggestion. Fr. Michael will follow up that lead, and any others that present themselves. The Parishioners from St. Bernardine's in Skead will be invited; the cost will be divided on a prorated basis between the two parishes, based on actual attendance.

Re (3): Fr. Michael thanked the PPC members for their unanimous support (between official meetings) of the use of donations from the Christmas Memorial Flowers for the Pregnancy Centre and Infant Food Bank. As a clarification, 100% of the donations will be forwarded to the Pregnancy Centre; the cost of flowers purchased for Christmas will come out of our parish funds.

Re (4): Under **Social Concerns**, a member brought forward a suggestion/request from a Parishioner that at Easter, the Flowers be purchased in memory of the sick, rather than the deceased. Since our next meeting is scheduled just before Lent begins, we will discuss this at greater length then.

Fr. Michael indicated he has set Friday, January 5th as the date for our pizza and movie day. He has chosen a movie (to be announced), and will begin promoting the day through the bulletin.

Pamela reported on her efforts towards a parish fun day involving an activity such as skating. There are difficulties with this, as the city is not directly involved with the ice pads in the city, and much depends on volunteers and weather. There was a lot of discussion of various options/possibilities, and Pamela will pursue some of them, and report back at our next meeting. If opportunities arise before our next meeting, she will email us the information.

There was no further information or discussion under the headings of **Worship** or **Future Planning**. Under **Youth**, Fr. Michael mentioned the importance of "comprehensive youth ministry", which essentially is inviting young parishioners to be involved in the same things as the adults. So, for example, welcoming them to the Parish Appreciation Dinner is a very positive thing. So too inviting them to be Lectors, or any other ministry of which they are capable.

Under **Pastoral Care**, Marie gave an update of some of her ministry in this area. The Parish Prayer Line information published in the bulletin was appreciated and helpful.

Under **Faith Formation and Spirituality**, Fr. Michael reported on the Zoom meeting held last week with the Bishop and all the priests of the Diocese. After many years of false starts, there seems to be a renewed interest in establishing a formation program for men and women of the Diocese who are interested in formal training for ministry. We should hear more about this in the year ahead.

Re (5): Myron distributed a spreadsheet showing our financials until the end of October, compared to our budget. We are in good shape financially. The Finance Committee will likely recommend depositing some excess funds on hand with the Diocese this month or next.

The meeting ended with a prayer, led by Sue, at 7:20pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, February 7th at 6pm – Parish Hall.