

# PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2012

## ATTENDEES

Fr. Daly, Don Mueller, Patricia Dellar, Chris Wallmark, Carolyn Smithburger, Larry Donnelly, Jack Yatsko, Betsy Brooks, Joe Tiralla, Eduardo Braham, Cathy Berger, Maricarol Cloak, Mady Rivera, Rocky Ragano, Lisa Zecca, Jolene Sullens, Bill Prochownik and Maureen Cassidy.

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Don Mueller (outgoing President) at 7:15.

## OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME

Fr. Daly led the group in prayer and welcomed everyone.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without objection, the minutes of the June 12, 2012 meeting were approved on a motion made by Larry Donnelly and seconded by Jack Yatsko.

## ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

The following officers were voted in for 2012-2013: Al Perpuse as **President**, Cathy Berger as **Vice President**, and Maricarol Cloak as **Secretary**.

## COMMITTEE/MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

**Family Life** – Cathy Berger, **Social Concerns** – Betsy Brooks, **Evangelization** – Lisa Zecca, **Religious Education** – Maricarol Cloak, **Liturgy and Worship** Jolene Sullens, **Hospitality** - Larry Donnelly, **Buildings and Grounds** – Jack Yatsko.

## PASTOR'S REPORT

1. Fr. Daly thanked everyone for their help with the funerals of Bob Severano and June Vernon. He reported that there have been about 27 deaths this year. Fr. Daly thanked Rocky Ragano for creating the beautiful Memorial Wall. St. John Vianney averages about 25 deaths and 40 Baptisms each year. The names of the deceased and those Baptized will be placed on the Memorial Wall.
2. Prayers were asked for Russell Robertson who is back in the hospital; Simon Thomas, Mary Posey's son, is out of the coma but still in critical condition; and Joe Daigle who is not doing very well.
3. St. John Vianney will host a Lenten Mission presented by the oblates of St. Francis de Sales Sunday, February 3 – Thursday, February 7. All activities (i.e. CCD, Ladies and Men's Club etc.) that week will be cancelled in order to allow parishioners to participate in preparation for Lent.
4. International Day of Peace will be held at St. John Vianney on September 21, 2012 in the Family Life Center from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. The focus will be on returning veterans and PTSD.
5. The Archdiocesan Synod will take place on June 8, 2014 (Pentecost). Each parish was asked to select four people to participate in the Synod. The purpose of the Synod is to chart a course for the future. The report will come out on Pentecost in 2014.

6. The NAMI of Southern Maryland Conference will be held in the FLC on October 9, 2012 at 7PM. There will be discussions on mental illness, a film and presentation.
7. Tai Chi classes will be offered by Shellie Graziano.
8. Recent improvements to the Church and other buildings include:
  - Statues in the Festival Room (Carlos Victoria)
  - Calligraphy in the Festival Room (Duke Jones)
  - New roof over basement entrance to Church (Ronnie and Bucky)
  - Dumb waiter & basement entry to the Food Pantry (Ronnie Williams)
  - Baptisms and Death memorial Wall in Church (Rocky Ragano)
  - Eagle Scout Projects
    - Planting at the Vianney Room (Joe Gianfriddo)
    - Shed for Pre-school (Brendan Thompson)
    - Collection boxes for the food pantry (Steven Smithburger)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Vianney Room – The Vianney Room is done with the exception of audio visual equipment. Large screen TVs are still needed for the large room so videos for weddings, funerals etc can be shown. We still need to put in a sound system as well. There is still about \$100,000.00 in pledges that we hope will come in. A final payment on construction of \$85,000.00 is due. It was suggested that the \$85,000.00 be drawn from the Patrimony Fund and then replenish the fund with the pledged monies when they come in. Fr. Daly had a copy of the Requirements form for use of the Vianney Room and asked that we address the form and rental prices under New Business.
2. Food Pantry – Larry Donnelly updated the Council on the SJVC Food Pantry. The food Pantry's one year anniversary will be on November 11, 2012. It began by serving 28 families the first week and has grown to serving 110 families. There are 60 volunteers working in the food pantry. Due to the increase in clients a meeting was held between the various food pantries in the county to better define pantry boundaries. We will serve the area between Broomes Island and the Beaches. Hopefully the client number will level off at about 85 families. Larry thanked the parish for their generous gifts in the poor box the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. He reported that the new lift has been installed and a new set of exterior doors and stairs has been installed to replace the stairs taken out to accommodate the lift. Larry's son-in-laws company donated a van for pantry use and lettering and logos were placed on each side and the back doors. Bernie Fowler has been instrumental in providing fresh vegetables and fruit for our clients. Rowells Butcher Shop will butcher any deer hunters bring in to the shop. Please specify the venison is for St. John Vianney's Food Pantry. The butchering is paid for by the Maryland Hunters Assoc. There was discussion about purchasing Commodity Foods. Larry said that doing so would mean the food pantry would need a separate room just for the commodity foods as well as separate bookkeeping. Larry asked if anyone had information on where to apply for additional grants to please contact him. Last year Dominion Cove Point gave the food pantry \$10,000.00. The food Pantry spends on average \$800.00 to \$1000.00 per week on food. The Maryland Hunters Assoc. will donate turkeys for Thanksgiving.
3. Parish Picnic – Don Mueller thanked Beth Rodenhaver for helping to organize all the children's activities and Larry Donnelly for the great food. We had great weather. A presentation on Nicaragua was given and a preview of Scott Vogan's video on Nicaragua was shown at the FLC.
4. Nicaragua –Don Mueller said the old age home is almost complete. Between 8 and 16 people will be able to live in the home depending on the number of people per room. There will be about 60 homes in the subdivision with a couple model homes now completed. We have raised and spent about \$250,000.00 in Nicaragua. The next trip is scheduled for January 23 -29, 2013. Don explained the criteria for going on of these trips; you need to donate the cost of a house, you need to be physically able to go and pay for your own trip costs (about \$1,600.00 per person). Another trip is planned for July 2013. Don also noted that Fr. Hernandez went on the last trip and will now be more involved with the project.

Fr. Daly reported that our sister parish in Mississippi had no problem with the hurricane. He also said that our relationship with our sister parish in Mexico is much reduced due to the retirement of the Pastor we were working with. We sent \$5,000.00 last year which was used for roof repairs and an insurance payment. Fr. Daly said we will need to reevaluate our relationship with the Mexican parish.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Cemetery Expansion – Fr. Daly reported that there are about 200 unsold spaces in the cemetery. It will take about 20 years to sell that number. Expansion for the cemetery could be on the property on Main Street; extending from Main Street to Fr. Alliat's home. We could also do as the Archdiocese suggested and remove the second cottage and expand the cemetery there. For every acre there can be about 500 graves. Fr. Daly said that there are more cremations now so there is a need to expand the niches. Right now there are about 40 spaces left in the ground and no niches left in the wall. The question of how to pay for the expansion was addressed with the suggestion that money could be borrowed from the Trust Fund. More discussion of the cemetery expansion will be moved to Old Business for the next meeting.
2. Second Cottage - Fr. Daly reported that the second cottage can only be rented to a priest. The Archdiocese is exercising tighter control and must review every contract. So for now the cottage will be empty and we will need to pay the utilities. Fr. Daly asked the Council to give some thought as to what can be done with the cottage. Fr. Daly said the Archdiocese suggested tearing it down.
3. Coat Drive for Catholic Charities – Fr. Daly said we would be having a coat drive in conjunction with Catholic Charities. A request for volunteers to head this initiative was made. Maureen Cassidy and Mady Rivera volunteered to co-chair this project. Fr. Daly said all the coats would go to Washington but he felt we could keep some here if need be however he did not want to store coats. The drive will take place in October. We will need collection boxes. Maureen and Mady will place announcements in the Sunday bulletin. Catholic Charities will send a truck to pick-up the coats.
4. Noah's Ark Nursery – Fr. Daly said a coordinator needs to be found for the nursery or the 9:30 and 11:15 Masses. There was discussion as to the small number of families who use this service and the need to have adults who have gone through the child protection course and finger printing. It was suggested that more adults would volunteer if St. Mary's was open more often for finger printing or if finger printing could be done at the class. Fr. Daly spoke of getting a finger printing site here. Many families prefer to use the Festival Room. Fr. Daly said that that was one of the original purposes of the Festival Room. It was agreed that there was no need to continue to search for a nursery coordinator and the Festival Room would be suggested as an alternative to the nursery for families with small children.
5. Vianney Room Rental Rates – There is a need for a cigarette repository on the patio. All Church property needs to be labeled. This is possibly a job for one of the clubs. After reviewing the Requirements Form the following changes were suggested:
  - Delete "and smoking area" from the facility description on front page.
  - Add take all trash to dumpster and return room to its original condition.
  - Add a fee for overtime – an additional 25% of the rental fee.
  - Add that nothing is to be affixed to the walls or ceiling.There was additional discussion concerning the cost to rent the hall for parishioners. The consensus was that a 50% discount was too much. Joe Tiralla made a motion to reduce from 50% to 25% the discount on the rental fee for parishioner. Rocky Ragano seconded and unanimously approved by the Pastoral Council.
6. KAIROS – Don Mueller reported that he along with Chuck Knapper and Darrell Ahne will be a part of the KAIROS Ecumenical Prison Ministry being held on November 8 to 11, 2012. They are asking help in baking 300 dozen cookies for this project. Don invited other parishioners to attend the closing event or to become involved with the ministry. Anyone interested should contact Don for forms and information on getting clearance to attend.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Fr. Daly said that there would be an online educational program – Living Catholic. There will be an opening and closing meeting but the rest of the program would be online. More information to follow.
2. Fr. Daly said the Council would need to talk about finances at the next meeting. This year there will be a less detailed report. He said collections have been flat for at least 3 years. There is a projected deficit of \$96,000.00.
3. Fr. Daly thanked Don Mueller for his service as President of the Pastoral Council.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

**NEXT MEEETING WILL BE HELD OCTOBER 16, 2012**