

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2012

ATTENDEES

Fr. Daly, Albert Perpuse, Larry Donnelly, Jack Yatsko, Betsy Brooks, Joe Tiralla, Cathy Berger, Maricarol Cloak, Mady Rivera, Rocky Ragano, Lisa Zecca, Bill Prochownik, Cathy Hogenson and Maureen Cassidy.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Albert Perpuse at 7:00.

OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without objection, the minutes of the September 18, 2012 meeting were approved on a motion made by Cathy Berger and seconded by Rocky Ragano.

PASTOR'S REPORT

1. Fr. Daly asked for prayers for the sick: Jack and Jean Doran, Walt and Ethel Sands, Mark Annee, Arthur Thompson, and those mentioned in the bulletin. Additional prayers were requested for Larry Donnelly and Noah Victoria and the deceased of the Parish: Robert Severn and Ann Thompson.
2. Year of Faith started on October 11. The Pope wants to focus on fundamentals he began with love, then hope and now faith. We are looking for new ways to communicate our faith. The percentage of people participating in religion is falling. The question is how do we impart faith to the next generation?

We will have a series – Faith on File. We will try to hold these sessions on Saturday evenings. The Catholicism Series will be shown again in both English and Spanish. We will try to have some speakers during the Parish mission in February.

3. November 11 is Veterans Day. We are requesting all veterans and those still serving in the military wear their uniforms and or medals. There will be a blessing at each Mass for our military members.

Forty people and four panel members attended the International Day of Peace that was held at St. John Vianney on September 21, 2012 in the Family Life Center. The focus was on returning veterans and post traumatic stress disorder. It was noted that more veterans from the Vietnam era are having flashbacks due to the new types of medications given today.

4. The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Southern Maryland Conference will be held in the Family Life Center on October 9, 2012 at 7PM. There will be discussions on mental illness, a film and a presentation.
5. We need an organizer for *Living Catholic* an online program. There is a \$10 fee for the course. We will have opening (next month) and closing (in spring) sessions. Sessions will probably take place mid-week after Mass or Saturday or Sunday. It will focus on the four pillars: Faith, Church, Morality and Prayers. You will be able to ask questions at the end of the course and someone will get back to you.
6. Trip to France will be next summer or fall visiting Ares, Chartres and Lourdes. It will be a two week trip and cost between \$2,000 and \$4,000. Sessions to organize will take place sometime in December.

7. Archdiocese Development Office has requested we participate in an estate-planning workshop. This is to encourage members of the Parish to remember the Church in their wills. Our Church has received several gifts from peoples estates that helped to balance our budget in the last four or so years.
8. The Archdiocese has Mini Capital Campaigns for small projects under \$100,000 for renovations without assessment (see New Business item #3).
9. Mataponi Retreat House is available for retreats, weddings etc. Cost is \$600 for a wedding reception. We will publish our rates for the Vianney Room. The Boy Scouts and Men's Club have already used it for dinners. We will be putting up soft walls to alleviate the echoing. The mechanical problem with the dividers is being fixed.
10. A motion was made by Rocky Ragano to end the meeting at 8:45 so we will be able to get home to watch the Presidential Debate and was seconded by Mady Rivera.

OLD BUSINESS

1. No dates were assigned for the Committee Reports at the last meeting. Larry Donnelly volunteered to give his report on Hospitality first as he was ready to go. The schedule for reports will be **Hospitality** - Larry Donnelly (October), **Family Life** – Cathy Berger (November), **Social Concerns** – Betsy Brooks (January), **Evangelization** – Lisa Zecca (February), **Religious Education** – Maricarol Cloak (March), **Liturgy and Worship** - Jolene Sullens (April), **Buildings and Grounds** – Jack Yatsko (May).
2. There is nothing new to report on the cemetery expansion as no information has been received from the Archdiocese. We need to decide on tearing down the cottage or using it for another purpose (retreat for priests, place for priests between assignments or in need of private retreat).
3. Coat Drive – Cathy Berger reported the boxes have been filled several times. We still have a few weeks to collect. The coats will be picked-up and cleaned by Catholic Charities.
4. Synod – People who volunteered to serve last year will be receiving a schedule for the meetings. It will probably be held at Trinity College in D.C. Fr. Daly will be participating as a Dean.
5. Nursery – There will be no nursery this year. Cathy Berger suggested a notice be put in the bulletin.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hospitality report was given by Larry Donnelly (copy attached). Ushers are in need of new collection baskets. Not enough people are signing up for Sunday hospitality. Linda Ellenens requests that monies left in the donation basket be used to purchase refreshments. Fr. Daly said to check with Pat Yatsko as to where that money has gone in the past. First Sunday Brunch is a big hit. FSB donations have fallen this year. Cathy Berger motioned to accept the Hospitality Report and Cathy Hogenson seconded.
2. Finances – The Finance Report is not as detailed this year. The collections have been flat for four years now. This will be the fifth year of not meeting our expenses. We spend about \$1,000,000 per year and bring in about \$493,000. Half comes from collections and half from fees and pass throughs. Utilities and maintenance fees are very high. We still need money for the building fund (which is exempt until 2013) for repairs. The Church didn't replace two people who have left saving \$75,000. There is a possibility of putting solar panels on the roof of the Family Life Center to help with costs. Al Perpuse suggested a mailing as a reminder of the \$125,000 in pledges still due. Fr. Daly said he tries to limit the talk about money to once a year. Larry Donnelly suggested that Fr. Daly should speak again at a Mass to educate the Parishioners about the financial situation of the Parish. Fr. Daly will remind the Parishioners that the Christmas collection is not assessed.

Fr. Daly the Archdiocese is rolling out a new program. It will be the first in the country to centralize all records. This will be a gradual rollout with 30 parishes in the pilot program. The Archdiocese will take over all financial, personnel etc. records. It is meant to streamline but will be very time consuming. They will have direct access to the Parish bank accounts and will automatically take their share out of our account. There are concerns about privacy, loss of control at the parish level. Larry Donnelly questioned what would happen with the Food Pantry donations. A dedicated account may need to be set up for the Food Pantry and possibly use the Safe Nights model for the Food Pantry. The Archdiocese asked for a full account of every organization that uses church facilities – there are 22 different groups. Betsy Brooks asked if Fr. Daly would like suggestions for fundraisers. Fr. Daly said he liked to do only one fundraiser per year. He feels we should bring people together make new friends.

3. Work on Church –
 - a. Porch - Fr. Daly said that there was need to fix the steps and the porch outside the Church.
 - b. Trellis – Fr. Daly would like to put a pergola over the porch and cover it with vines grown in pots. These projects could be done using a Mini Campaign. Cathy Berger made a request that sidewalks from church to other buildings also be considered. Jack Yatsko will investigate sidewalks. We might want to consider adding landscaping and lights as we'll as the use of water permeable concrete for the sidewalks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Fr, Daly has ordered 200 Magnificat Booklets for Advent – an Advent template for our thoughts about life in general.
2. RCIA and Adult Education going very well this year.
3. Prayers were asked for a successful surgery for Betsy Brooks and also for Fr. Daly's mother.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

NEXT MEEETING WILL BE HELD NOVEMBER 20, 2012