

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2012

ATTENDEES

Fr. Daly, Albert Perpuse, Larry Donnelly, Jack Yatsko, Betsy Brooks, Cathy Berger, Maricarol Cloak, Mady Rivera, Lisa Zecca, Bill Prochownik, Cathy Hogenson, Patricia Dellar, Carolyn Smithberger and Maureen Cassidy.

CALL TO ORDER

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

OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With one correction, the minutes of the October 16, 2012 meeting were approved on a motion made by Cathy Berger and seconded by Cathy Hogenson.

PASTOR'S REPORT

1. Fr. Daly asked for prayers for the sick: Jack and Jean Doran, Walt and Ethel Sands, Mark Annee, Arthur Thompson, Rita Ampteman (Rosemary Hill's sister), and those mentioned in the bulletin. Additional prayers were requested for Eleanor Sukusky, Frances Chaney, Megan deGreen (Jack Yatsko's granddaughter), Russell Robertson and the deceased of the Parish: Mario Cortez (Uncle of Lilian Lopez) and Ellen Ervin (sister of Bobbi Woollen)
2. Year of Faith: Ralph Garner is printing up cards on things we want to learn about our faith. They can be put in a prayer book or used as a reference. We will start the Catholicism Series on the first of the year and continue the Faith on Film Series.

Fr. Daley thanked everyone who participated in the Veterans Day Services. There were about 25 service members at each Mass. We should continue this next year.

3. Safe Nights will be held here this week. There are eleven people seeking shelter tonight. This is a testament to the community and Joe and Mary Ann. Safe Nights pays for itself about \$600 per year.
4. Fr. Daly asked what we should do about the retreats in the Parish. The Men's Retreat will be February 15-17. People like the Washington Retreat House. Other parishes have decided to go their own way. We used to have a waiting list for retreats but not anymore. 35-40 people are a good number for a retreat. Carolyn Smithberger suggested changing the date of the Women's Retreat from October to another month. This will be put on the agenda.
5. Fr. Daly said that Jan Padone, Bobbie Woollen and Crystal will be going to Orlando next month for the Conference for Youth Ministers and Directors of Religious Education. They will be collecting ideas for programs. This conference is held every other year.
6. Fr. Daly asked that we think of a project we can do for the Hurricane Sandy victims. Cathy Berger suggested St. Jude or St Thomas and Genevieve's. He'd like to get a scouting party together to see what we can do to help. Staten Island maybe a good choice. It often takes months to organize what needs to be done so we will revisit this item next month.

7. There has still been no answer from the Archdiocese about the cottage. We need to come up with a plan. A priest or deacon who would be able to minister to the Latino community would be perfect. We will have a priest here for one month from the Dominican Republic. Al Perpuse will get together with Fr. Daly to create a list of possible uses.
8. Fr. Daly would like our sister parish in Hidalgo to have a more of a relationship with us. One that has more substance than paying bills. He requested we think about what our relationship should be. We may need to reintroduce ourselves to the parish.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Living Catholic Online still needs a coordinator. Someone to show how to get online, use the program and set up an ending session. Al will talk to Jack McFadden about installing Wi-Fi. Fr. Daly will find a volunteer to coordinate Living Catholic Online possibly Steve Kupka or Rob Spaulding.
2. The Finance Council discussed having someone design the cemetery expansion. There are three possibilities for expansion: 1) use the land along Maun Street. This would add about 100 to 150 new graves. 2) People are moving to cremation so we could create an amphitheater and in the risers would be niches for cremated remains. This would total about 200 niches. 3) Expand up to the cottage or tear it down and expand further. Fr. Daly would like to do the expansion at no cost to the Parish. We would borrow money from the trust fund and use all the money from the sale of graves to pay back the trust. He feels the Pastoral Council should decide how the cemetery should look. The Council felt that we should delay expansion on Main Street and hold the grounds for possible investment in the future. Motion was made by Maureen Cassidy to contact COA to begin process and was seconded by Carolyn Smithberger.
3. Coat Drive – Cathy Berger reported 400 coats were collected. The coats were picked-up Catholic Charities. Maureen will write a summary for the Sunday bulletin.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Larry Donnelly reported the Food Pantry served 98 families. He picked up 85 boxes with an average weight of 35lbs. plus an additional 200 lbs. of food from Jesus the Devine Word for Thanksgiving. We have distributed 81,000 lbs of food before Thanksgiving. He anticipates giving out about 100,000 lbs. next year. The 231 and End Hunger Food Pantries each gave out about 400 turkeys for Thanksgiving. Our Food Pantry is the only pantry who gives turkeys at Christmas.
2. We attempted to view a video on the Archdiocesan Synod. Technical difficulties with the DVD player prevented us from viewing the entire video. It was to explain the five keys: Worship, Education, Community, Service and Administration & Stewardship. Fr. Daly passed out booklets to those participating in the Synod. Al Perpuse said there is supposed to be a meeting to gather information. Tentative dates for Listening Sessions – one event where the group will divide into smaller groups. It was felt one day would be sufficient to do this. This event could possibly be held Sunday afternoon February 10 at 1 PM with lunch provided. It is expected that people would stay about 2-3 hours. Al Perpuse will need to check to see if Family Life Center is available. The alternative would be to use the Church and conference rooms for breakouts.
3. Cathy Berger gave the Family Life report (copy attached). A volleyball and basketball camp during the summer was suggested. We will no longer have Catholic Heart Work Camp due to our low numbers. Fr. Daly asked that he receive information so he can recognize the good works of the Parish youth.
4. The Moran Company contacted Fr. Daly about setting up a direct mail campaign to bring those who have fallen away from the Church back. This would include a personalized letter from the pastor inviting 600 families we don't see to an event. This would be followed up with a post card as a reminder of the event. They would also do a newsletter to all families. The fee for this with printing and postage included is \$4,000. The goal would be to increase parish participation. Maureen Cassidy asked if they had data showing

the positive effects of such a campaign. It was suggested we invite those families who we haven't been seeing to attend 5:30 Mass on March 16, 2013 and then join us at the St. Patrick's Day party. It was also suggested we look into purchasing magnets with Church information on them. Jack Yatsko made a motion to decline the Moran Companies offer. Cathy Hogenson seconded. Cathy Berger and Maricarol Cloak will work on the project.

5. Fr. Daly asked for assistance in identifying priorities. He asked the Pastoral Council to review the Statement of Activities. The question was asked, what is the relationship of the Pastoral Council to the Finance Council? The Pastoral Council identifies needs and shouldn't worry about the financial aspects. We are to look at what is lacking i.e. youth activities, more music etc. Our three biggest expenses are 1) the assessment by the Archdiocese, 2) Personnel costs and 3) utilities.
6. Fr. Daly reminded us that this is the 150 Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. He would like to do more to thank the staff, Altar servers and youth. He is considering a trip in or around May to tie in with the 150 Anniversary as a thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

NEXT MEEETING WILL BE HELD January 15, 2013