

## **St Catherine Labouré Pastoral Council Meeting**

**March 06, 2017**

**Call to order at 6:02 pm by President Michael Miller.**

**Present:** Joyce Ford, JoAnn French, Mike Miller, Katie Napp, Michael Orley, Al Parnell, Len Rechichar, Dorothy Swehla, and Father Fred.

**Absent:** John Reed (excused)

**Guests:** none

**Recorder:** Tammy Holmes

**Opening prayer** – Katie Napp

**Reading of Parish Mission Statement:**

Mission Statement: We, the community of St. Catherine Labouré, empowered by the Holy Spirit, will strive to serve the Gospel message in reaching out as the Body of Christ to serve our brothers and sisters.

**Approval of the minutes** from January 9, 2017 meeting.

Michael Miller and Michael Orley both reported that were absent in January. The minutes from January will be amended to reflect this.

**All motion to approve amended minutes. Michael Orley seconded. Approved with all in favor.**

**Call to the public:**

**None**

**Public concerns voiced to Council members:**

**JoAnn** – Therese asked her to mention a French boys choir coming in August 2nd. Could we encourage people to attend? On August 3rd, they could come here to sing a Mass for us. JoAnn also said they may need a few families to help house the choir members, but those details had yet to be worked out. Father indicated that the Diocese does not allow non-Catholics concelebrate a Mass. He needs to know what time they would be looking to have a Mass, as August 3rd he has confessions at 11 am. He asked if there was a cost associated with them coming here. He needs to speak with Therese to get several questions answered before he could approve the choir being part of a Mass.

**Len** – reported that since the last meeting there has not been another problem with snow and ice before the morning Masses.

**Al** – was once again asked about the microphone by the commentators – the buzzing is distracting. Father is working on getting someone here to work on the entire system. So far, he has not been able to get the man to reply. He is going to continue to search for someone. Michael Orley is going to research to see if there is someone locally we could use. Must be a professional company.

**Len** – Kitchen remodel project is in the research process. County, State, and City regulations need to be clarified. At this time, there isn't much to report due to lack of available people to do a design plan to satisfy the requirements. The group currently doing the research into this project has been gathering information and will present information to the Finance Council and Pastoral Council once this process is completed.

**Katie** – the Ladies group feels their upcoming Arts and Crafts show has been hindered due to not being able to offer food to the public. Father reiterated that advertising outside of the parish for “food events” is not allowed due to Diocesan regulation.

### **Pastor’s Report:**

**Father Fred** reported that work is being done on our parking lot (handicapped spaces), and that we will be sealing and striping the rest of the lot in April. He indicated that we are having difficulties with the copier and the maintenance of the copier. The Finance Council is still searching for options to deal with the problem. They have decided to no longer to lease any machines and will purchase all future machines. Confirmation will be here on May 20 for the Hispanic Community, with Fr. David Kelash as the celebrant.

### **Committee Reports:**

Due to the budget process, the members of the committees were not asked to submit a report for this meeting.

### **Old Business**

- **Pastoral Plan Review**

- **Reach out to former Catholics** – Catholics Welcomed Home Mar 18, 25 & April 1
- **Establish multi-generational programs** – Holy Family Ministry Theology on the Grill and Movie nights. Volunteers are the biggest problem for them.
- **Increase ministry volunteers** – need to get the information out so people know how to become a volunteer.
  - **Michael Orley** suggested a ministry fair. The ones we have held have not been well attended.
  - **Jo Ann** replied that it a proven method to get volunteers is to personally invite them.
  - **Len** reported that he is doing a personal appeal in March for new Knights, and to let the congregation know of the scholarships available for High School seniors, and that the Knights are again offering assistance for fees for youth to attend St. Joseph’s Youth Camp.
  - **Tammy** reported that she and Jenny have a plan to feature two groups until all of the groups are represented. The information would be in the hall in a type of flip file and updated as needed.
  - **Katie** suggested a Called and Gifted workshop. She has taken the course and will look for her book and suggested we could copy the materials. Michael Orley offered to help. JoAnn said that there is a cost associated with the Called and Gifted program.
  - **Al** recommends that we make sure whatever program we bring in is in conformity with the Diocesan requirements. We must ensure that we have copyright requirements taken into consideration. The SET training needs to be stressed to new volunteers to maintain our present level of compliance. Our elderly population is not necessarily interested in a new “job.” He has a concern about the flip book being placed in the hall as people don’t always go to the hall,

even when invited to come back to greet the priest and deacons after Mass in the hall. He suggested the flip book be placed in the vestibule.

- **Father** is concerned that we are trying to force more and more groups and programs on fewer people to utilize the groups. If you want to make changes, you need to do something different. The Ladies group was revitalized by a person who didn't let people off the hook. She asked people to do something, she expected follow through and she didn't allow people to stand still. The Choir has grown and gotten better due to leadership that has said there were standards that needed to be met, those who were willing to meet them stayed, and the choir has grown and improved. Risks are sometimes necessary in order to grow. The Disciples had to go out and take huge risks to spread the Gospel message. Father repeated, we don't need another program (Called and Gifted) to solve the volunteer issue. We need people willing to take risks in order to make a change. He will talk to Therese who changed the choir and to Barbara Stropko who started the change in the ladies group to see if they would be willing to share how they achieved change. Once that has been done leadership from all groups could be invited to meet to hold a roundtable to discuss how to motivate their volunteers by using some of the same methods.
- **Foster spiritual growth –**
  - there will be a Taizé service March 10th.
  - Father handed out Lenten books again this year
  - On March 31st, there will be a penance service at Sacred Heart.
  - Bulletin stuffers are again being used for Lent.
- **Parish Newsletter for April**
  - **Jo Ann – due March 15**
- **Review of Upcoming Events**
  - **Knights breakfast** March 12 beginning at 8 am in the hall
  - **Just Coffee Sales** March 18 & 19 in the hall after Mass (no sales in April due to Easter)
  - **Easter baskets** – Len reported that the Knights provided gift cards to Father Fred. If you know of someone in need, please ask them to see Father.

## **New Business**

- **Parish Newsletter for May and June**
  - **May – Al** – due date April 15
  - **June – Katie**– due date May 15

## **Member Concerns / issues**

- **Michael Orley** – people have expressed concern about the noise in the sanctuary. He hasn't seen this addressed and it is disruptive to those who wish to pray. Father can attempt to address this again.

- **Katie** – asked if the Council felt there may be any interest in Light of the World program coming here to St. Catherine's. It has been done at Sacred Heart several times and has helped people to get "on fire" and want to volunteer.
- **Katie** reported that the Ladies will be holding a baby shower for Life Connections
- **Mike Miller** will be in Wisconsin from April to October. Dorothy will direct meetings in his absence.
- **Father Fred** reported that Sacred Heart will begin their remodeling project on January 1, 2018. The Church will be closed January to May with all Masses being held in the gym. There will be many people who will be coming here because there is no access to the gym other than stairs, no air conditioning, and seating will be folding chairs. He expects an increase in complaints about how things are done here at St. Catherine's. He also expects an increase in requests for us to do things the way that they are done at Sacred Heart. There will be an increase in the number of people attending our Masses, but not necessarily an increase in the collection. He wanted the Council to be aware of this as we will not be entertaining complaints or suggestions to change how we do things here at St. Catherine's to make us more like Sacred Heart.

**Agenda items for the next meeting on May 01, 2017–**

- Presentation of FY 17/18 budget by Finance Council for approval.
- Summer program discussion/review
- Light of the World – any interest in bringing it to St. Catherine's? (Katie)
- Please submit any additional agenda items to the office for inclusion in the next meeting at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

**AL moved to adjourn the meeting after the closing prayer and the mission statement at 7:20 pm. JoAnn seconded the motion. Approved with all in favor.**

**Closing Prayer – Father Fred**

**Reading of Parish Mission Statement - all**

Next Meeting: May 1, 2017 starting at 6 pm in the St. Michael Room.