

Parish Pastoral Council Notes — November 13, 2017

Team Focus: Pastoral Care

In Attendance

Anne Bell, Lisa Bianculli, Barbara Bruce, Bill Crandall, Greg Dankey, Duncan Harris, Eric Heinen, Paul Hogan, Amy Johnson, Cathy Kamp, Mary Ann Lovelock, Jeanne Mooney, Chris Pantaleo, Dave Roberts, Ned Sayegh, Carolyn Schlageter, Fr. Jim Schwartz, Sr. Rosemary Sherman, Steve Smith

Chair's Welcome

Ned Sayegh & Cathy Kamp

- tonight is our 5 Year Plan update & follow-up; copies are available (and can be found on our website at [FiveYearPlanUpdated.](#))
- This is the last scheduled Parish Council meeting for this year. Our next meeting will be the State of the Parish meeting on Monday, January 8, 2018.
- the next session of our Christ Life pilot program will be tomorrow (Tuesday, Nov. 14)
- all of us are encouraged to join the Lenten ChristLife session. This will run on Monday nights from February 12, 2018, until March 26, 2018. Note that the ChristLife retreat of Saturday, March 17, 2018, replaces the initially scheduled Parish Council Leadership Retreat of March 2 & 3.
- on the 5 Year Plan, Cathy Kamp noted that we've accomplished a lot. We still need to encourage more people to participate in our Time & Talent efforts. Now with ChristLife we need to concentrate on our relationship with Jesus Christ, which is one of the goals of ChristLife.
- Ned wishes all a Happy Thanksgiving, hoping all get to enjoy football and family

Pastor's Report

Fr. Jim

- there are two signs of vibrancy in a parish like ours
 - mission driven – we are focused, not aimless
 - spiritual renewal – with ChristLife we step up our relationship with Jesus Christ
- CMA Update: have \$147,000 pledged; need momentum to continue

Team Focus/Catechesis: Pastoral Care

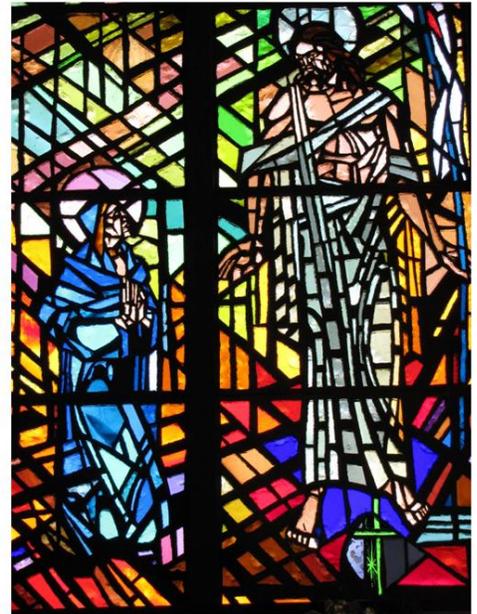
Deacon Duncan Harris

Duncan based tonight's catechesis on the "**Becoming a Parish of Mercy**" publication, where the assignment coming into tonight was **Chapter Two "Evangelization in a New Key: Mercy and the New Evangelization."**

PASTORAL CARE LEADERSHIP TEAM

CATECHESIS

“BECOMING A PARISH OF MERCY”



Chapter 2:

Evangelization in a New
Key: Mercy and the New
Evangelization



Major Themes in Chapter 2 :

- ▶ New Evangelization calls us to:
 - New Ardor - focus pastoral energies
 - New Methods - new ways to proclaim the Gospel
 - New Expressions – outreach and use of technology

- ▶ We must walk by faith together as community
 - Evangelization happens between people
 - We walk by faith in mercy meeting others where they are

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Major Themes in Chapter 2 continued :

- ▶ We are a sacramental people for others.
 - Church life is not a point but an ever widening circle
 - We are called to be an outward sign of an inward grace. We are called to live out the sacraments in our life

- ▶ A Sourpuss Does Not a Disciple Make!
 - A witness must be credible
 - “A Christian without joy is either not a Christian or he is sick” Pope Francis Homily 5/21/14

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Question

Question for Reflection:

- To show mercy and bring others to Christ we must first establish and cultivate relationships based on respect, trust and love. How is God calling you to develop these relationships with others?



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Discussion notes

- Sunday's World Day of the Poor is a perfect opportunity to cultivate relationships
- talking with new parishioners
- working with the prison population, establishing relationships
- God loves you, he's beside you
- greet the people near you in church; create a sense of warmth

Leadership Team check-ins

Dave Roberts

Stewardship [Steve Smith, Cathy Kamp]

- we've simplified the time & talent booklet. Any suggestions for improvement would be appreciated. One response: have a way to submit the response sheet even if no changes are being made.
- the Appreciation Celebrations were very well attended and received. This approach of using the Gathering Space allows us to reach more people than the old approach of scheduling a single dinner at Shadow Lake.
- our new treasure approach will be implemented in January, 2018.

Faith for Life [Eric Heinen, Jeanne Mooney]

- refining our mission this year with ChristLife folding in nicely.
- doing a redraft of our mission statement.

Goals (from the revised 5 Year Plan):

- Be an evangelizing community!
- This will primarily be achieved through the ChristLife program but is at the core of all of our ministries
- Include outside of St. Joseph's – more visibly; simple ways; social outreach leadership team can help with this; make people aware who cannot read our bulletin
- Expand lifelong learning opportunities
- Develop "Third Moment" Ministry – Mystagogy for all!
- Support the "Domestic Church"
- Build community among parents and among catechists
- Incorporate a Family Faith approach into our other offerings

Faith for Life – Youth Ministry [Lisa Bianculli]

- Right now, the teens are very vibrant and excited about youth group. We are so glad to have them in our ministry.
- We are encouraging attendance at the youth Eucharistic Adoration hour on Tuesdays. Hopefully this will be a way for the teens to grow closer to the Lord and develop their prayer lives.
- We are also looking for ways to help the teens build community, outside of youth nights, by having events such as movie nights, kick-ball, come and do your homework with snacks, community service opportunities, etc. This is a good way for teens to get to know each other better and also get to know Lisa and Fr. Miller outside of the nights where there are so many teens.
- We would like to invite the catechists to some sort of workshop for additional training to help their lessons be even better and more meaningful.
- We would like to continue the growth of teen involvement at the 5 PM Sunday Mass and really focus on making it the beginning of youth group.
- We would like to maintain and increase the number of teens attending the Steubenville Youth Conference, as the conferences are a unique opportunity to really give the teens a boost in their faith journey.
- We want to increase the young adult presence at youth group so that the teens can have role models to look up to, who encourage them to continue living out their faith after high school.
- We would like to continue to have a mix of topics covered that help the teens grow in knowledge of their faith, and also that help them find the Catholic Faith relevant to their lives.
- We want to increase parent involvement in various ways, as parents are the first catechists of their children.

Worship [Bill Crandall]

- new parishioner process
- welcomes suggestion from the group

New Initiatives (from the updated 5 Year Plan):

Assembly Driven Worship

- Define 'Worship' and engage discussion through bulletin and other means. Bringing the meaning of the word to easier terms

Develop and Grow WLT and Liturgical Leadership

- Empower – using more ‘person to person’ engagement; *develop online videos for some ‘at home’ lit. min. formation
- April 3, 2018 7pm – Dr. Ella Johnson, Symbols of the Liturgy, St. Bernard’s on the Road

Welcoming Hospitality

- new parishioner small gatherings/party – Spring or Fall 2018

Social Outreach [Anne Bell]

- To focus on Pope Francis’s message. “Let us love, not with words but with deeds... lead to a true encounter with the poor and a sharing that becomes a way of life... we are called, then, to draw near to the poor, to encounter them... Their outstretched hand is also an invitation to step out of our certainties and comforts, and to acknowledge the value of poverty in itself.”

Goals (from the updated 5 Year Plan):

Supporting the Penfield Community

- Penfield HOPE (See Parish Initiatives-Phase Two) This is a social outreach framework focusing on encountering and caring for the poor in our local community. It is grounded on an understanding of unmet needs in the community that we can address. This will be modeled after the well-established HOPE with existing processes and ministries that exist both within and outside of the parish.

Support Ongoing Ministries

- Ministries serving the homeless and refugees, providing education, food and clothing for the poor: Dimitri House, Habitat for Humanity, RAIHN, Tanzania Action Team, School 50, St Mary’s Homeless Initiative, Bethany House, Prison Ministry, Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf, Roc ACTS, Mary’s Place Refugee Outreach, Matthew’s Closet, Phillip the Van, Diocesan Public Policy Advocacy

Growth of Social Outreach Team

- Recruit members to the leadership team and ministries to reflect the diversity of the parish and community!
- Alignment of Social Outreach activities with Tithing distribution
- Integrate with other parish ministries’ goals, processes and activities
- Embrace learning and discernment

Long-Term

- Increase Tithing to 8% of Sunday offertory
- Focus our advocacy efforts to support the ministries we are involved

Catholic Education [Amy Johnson]

- got together with Fr. Jim, our principal (Amy) and Faculty to meet with the Causeway organization that works on branding & marketing for non-profits.
- reviewing survey results to get perception of what our school is, and how respondents felt we could grow. Hopes to continue to be a strong school
- On an impromptu suggestion by a parent, a drive to collect gently used winter coats was started and lasted for 4 days. It was a very impressive collection that was accomplished over only 4 days. They

then took the collection to Bethany House last week. There was a lot of good spirit generated by this effort.

- looking at the gala committee and other fund-raising events.

Wrap-up Discussion

Dave Roberts

- thanks to all for all the work done in updating the plan