

ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
December 8, 2014

MEETING PARTICULARS

A meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) was held in the Parish Center, starting at 7:12 PM on Monday, December 8, 2014.

ATTENDANCE

Council Members Attending: Fr. Frank Latzko, Kate Lynch, Tom Micinski, Anna Althoff, Lina Hilko, Alex Lopez, Jessica Marx, Rebecca O'Brien, Bert Olson, Amir Rafizadeh

Council Members Absent: Laura King, Justin Peters

Others Attending: N/A

MINUTES

Opening Prayer – Anna Althoff

Prayer based upon Immaculate Conception.

Pastoral Matters – Fr. Frank

To Teach Who Christ Is Campaign Update – Fr. Frank

- Fr. Frank began the meeting with an update on the land sale and the 'To Teach Who Christ Is' (TTWCI) program. The land sale was designated partly to assist with the construction of a new ministry center but also to contribute St. Teresa's necessary contributions to the TTWCI program, regardless of whether we have a school or not.
- Fr. Frank mentioned a discrepancy and some confusion, due to a poorly written letter, which caused uncertainty regarding the actual amount owed.
- St. Teresa's original amount was believed to be roughly \$110,000.
- During the time when Fr. Frank was on the Camino, the Archdiocese clarified that the total amount owed is about \$257,000. This is based on Sunday collections of about \$600k. The campaign formula is designed to raise an amount equal to collections, with St. Teresa keeping 60% and 40% being allotted to Archdiocese TTWCI.
- The Archdiocese remove the \$257k from the parish funds, and the resulting confusion led to St. Teresa's general funds being frozen, which in turn, decelerated the renovation scheduled because all funds were frozen for a period.
- St. Teresa has agreed to pay the entire sum of \$257,000 over a three year period (as is being allowed to other parishes), and parish funds are unencumbered.
- Fr. Frank is set to meet with the Finance Committee in order to discuss funds, investments and additional building projects. The proposed building project would be to demolish the current building and rebuild. "We simply need more space." In a year from now, we will have a town hall meeting regarding this building and the assembly of a committee. Fr. Frank did mention that roughly 30% of churches are currently operating at a loss; could lead to closings. Bishop Cupich is pleased we are operating within budget.
- Additionally, Fr. Frank discussed more of the TTWCI program; the general consensus is that it wasn't performing well at inception, but it is under new management now. The

program focuses on the teaching of children, not just through schools but also through catechesis programs.

Time of Your Life Update – Rebecca O'Brien

- Rebecca provided an update on the success of this year's TYOL; she estimated the net proceeds might near \$170,000 a record setting amount for St. Teresa's. Previous year's goals were around \$100,000, with the record reaching \$150,000.
- Reasons for the successful year: 1) Attendance 2) Silent Auction netting roughly \$34,000 3) Paddle Raise was very successful due to the well-received auctioneer 4) Venue
- Rebecca discussed a few minor details; all were pleased with this year's success.
- Rebecca issued an invitation to a volunteer appreciation and debrief event at Pint on Dec 9th, being hosted by the Kolinski's.

Hiring Possibility – Fr. Frank

- Fr. Frank discussed the possibility of Deacon Dean becoming a permanent deacon at St. Teresa. Deacon Dean would assist with Mass on Sundays; his weekly role at the parish and his pay would not change. Dean desires to switch from DePaul to St. Teresa's.
- Fr. Frank wants to hold a "catechetical weekend" to explain in masses the role of Deacon.
- Mentioned also was the possibility for someone to be hired full time as 'Stewardship Minister' role. Fr. Frank mentioned this was most important for the future. The role would be full time if possible. The Finance Council is already aware of this possibility.

Re-Integration after Renovation – Fr. Frank

- Fr. Frank mentioned that the church is nearing completion however the altar must be consecrated by a Bishop before being used for mass. Mass might continue in the Parish Center for a bit longer.
- Based on today's schedule, mass might begin in the church on March 6th.
- Any further slippage from this date threatens ability to celebrate Easter (Apr 4th) in the church because we must celebrate in the new space for a few weeks before a mass as big and important as Easter.

Church Renovation Orientation – Reconciliation Room – Fr. Frank

- Fr. Frank led a discussion about the renovations.
- Orientation of the building: Reconciliation Room, Baptismal Font and the Altar make a triangle, tying to Trinity.
- Reconciliation is the sacrament that restores us into our Baptismal commitment.
- Gave a short history of the sacrament. Originated as one-time, post-Baptism. Long process by which evolved into frequent sacrament.
- New Reconciliation room will be like a chapel.
- People can choose to talk to priest from behind a screen or face to face.
- The wall of the room will have purple glass crosses that connect with the crosses on the "reredos" wall (wall behind altar).
- Group discussed concept of set schedule for receiving Reconciliation, but as of now, Fr. Frank does not have plans for a set schedule (i.e., 4PM on Saturdays or such).

Christmas/Advent – Fr. Frank

- Advent Reconciliation Service will be held on December 10th at 6:30PM. Lina described the service and invited PPC to come.
- Fr. Frank began discussing Christmas and Advent: 4pm Mass on Christmas Eve now changing to 3pm and 5pm offered.

Standing Reports

No official Finance Update or Buildings & Facilities Update because such business covered in Pastoral Matters, as well as typical Committee Updates for Events.

Committee Update: Faith Formation – Kate Lynch

- Kate provided an update on the speaker who came to present upon St. Teresa of Avila. There was a great turn out of both parishioners and non-parishioners.
- Kate provided a written update (scan attached at end).

Committee Update: Social Justice – Amir Rafizadeh

- There was a purse stolen at Food Pantry. Attending to matter.
- Currently Food Pantry serves up to 170 people (normally now 120-130). Volunteerism is very healthy; now signup online.
- Loaves and Fishes nearing 100 guests.
- Christmas dinner for guests on the 19th. There will be no gifts provided with dinner however, \$20 gift cards. Planning for roughly 150 guests. Not doing a Christmas Day dinner due to renovation.

Pastor's Comments/Additions – Fr. Frank

- Fr. Frank invited all to open house in Rectory being held Dec 21st after 6PM mass.

Anniversary Year 2014/15 Planning – Lina Hilko

Lina led through a very quick review of Anniversary Year events/tasks. Things like Spaghetti Dinner kickoff, Camino, Sr. Sandra appeal, local Caminos, and Advent speaker have already occurred and very successfully. Kate and Lina are working on an idea for Lenten Retreat. Fr. Frank is still seeking a collaborator for Renovated Church Guide Book.

ADJOURNMENT

The next PPC meeting will be January 12, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Light food and prayer will be provided by Rebecca O'Brien.

The meeting ended at about 8:45PM.

Prepared by: Bert Olson

St Teresa's Faith Formation- December 2014

CGS is going strong. Still getting calls from parents who want to join our program. There are 28 children receiving First Communion this year.

Edge (7th & 8th grade) is going strong with 17 teens, only 4 being confirmed this year, 12 next year. We have a woman coming next week to dress-up as Santa Lucia and Pat will teach them how to make Swedish Spice Cookies.

Quest (high school) is changing to meeting twice a month at St. Teresa as opposed to meeting once a month at St. Michael and once a month at St. Teresa. This is led by a married couple and 3 young adults. **Spread the word about Quest.**

CLOW still looking for catechists, but the children really seem to love it.

Children's Masses are once a month – first Sunday of the month- Fr. Frank does a wonderful homily engaging the children.

Youth Masses are once a month – after Xmas they will be the last Sunday of the month.

French Community is partnering up with us more and more. It is a rich dialogue.

SPRED is doing well, and as always, it is a model for how to do catechesis in general.

Looking for ways to teach about the Sacraments this year...more to come regarding Faith Formation this winter/spring.

Advent Wreath Making went well despite the constraints on space.

Hospitality w/Santa & Santa's Workshop for kids to make gifts- next Sunday

Advent Event was wildly successful with over 150 people attending – how did Lina do it?

Follow-up workshops on Contemplative Prayer coming up after Xmas.

Weekly Contemplative Prayer Group starting in January...please spread the word!

Xmas eve masses- asking families to choose a time (3 or 5). A-L -3; M-Z - 5

Advent Communal Reconciliation Service on Wednesday (Dec. 10) at 6:30 pm – spread the word