

St. Agnes + St. Paul of the Cross + St. Rose
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 9, 2016
 Time: 7:00 p.m.
 Place: St. Rose

Chairperson: Michael Falk
 Prayer: David Shaffer

ATTENDANCE: Fr. Michael Fowler, John Connelly, Michael Falk, Earll Fontaine, Elizabeth Dowd,
 David Shaffer, Robert Westfall, Joan Reid
 ABSENT: Michael Young, Daniel Marcellus, Lynne Mignemi,
 TRUSTEES: Barbara Herman, Roger Greiten,
 VISITORS: Christine DeVito, Carole Eilers-Lloyd, Holly Murray, Maureen Kingston, Kathy Salvati
 STUDENTS: NCYC attendees: Michael Salvati, Matthew Smith, Emma Arnold, Kathleen Smith, Marie Crane

| Report | Discussion |
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| | Michael Falk opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. Michael asked everyone to introduce themselves to the rest of the council. |
| PRAYER | David Shaffer led us in the opening prayer |
| GUESTS | Carole, parishioner of St. Paul of the Cross came to inquire why the minutes are not posted in each of the parishes. Michael Falk explained the procedure that had been in place and how it has now evolved to a different procedure. Joan will e-mail the minutes to Anne, who will make sure that they are posted in each of the parishes. Carole was also concerned about the rumor that the tabernacle at St. Paul of the Cross was to be moved from the side to the center of the sanctuary. She explained that Father Gross had taken great care in moving it from the center to the side using the base of the baptismal font and installed special lighting, so that it is not in the main flow of traffic, but rather provides a quiet space for prayer. If it were to be moved, Father's chair would also have to be moved. Father Beligotti put the special fabric behind the tabernacle. After Vatican II, the main altar should be the focus especially during Mass. If the tabernacle were to be returned to the center of the sanctuary it might be detracting for the assembly who are focusing on the altar and what is happening there. She would prefer that thought be given to why the tabernacle is where it is. |
| FAITH FORMATION, YOUTH MINISTRY, AND NCYC CHRISTINE DeVITO | Christine DeVito introduced herself and the young people who had attended NCYC with her. They described about how the experience had affected them and perhaps has changed their lives. They had a video running in the background as they spoke to share their experiences. |
| FATHER MICHAEL FOWLER | Father Michael announced that the Bishop has called and said that he would be coming to celebrate the Easter Vigil Mass with the cluster at St. Agnes at 8pm. |
| HOLLY MURRAY | Holly described her job description at the Parish Office. She shared the attendance numbers for the last four months. The number for each Mass for the month was averaged. The conclusion being that there was very little difference in the averages now, than before the Mass schedule changes. Holly also shared figures for collection revenues, which are continuing a steady decline that has been observed for the past several years. |
| PROCESS FOR MINUTES | Michael described the process of how minutes were taken, sent to Sister Karen, who reviewed then, made any corrections she wished, and then sent out to the PC. They were given time to review, suggest any changes and then posted in each parish. When Father Michael arrived, Joan sent the minutes to Father Michael, Anne and myself. The process now will be, Joan ⇒ Ann ⇒ PC ⇒ website ⇒ post in each parish. |
| FOOD ITEM COLLECTION | Let's remember to bring a food item to each meeting for the Food Pantry of that parish. |
| FEEDBACK on CURRENT SCHEDULE at ST. AGNES | Bob said that he hadn't heard anyone who liked it. We have Fr. Michael and Fr. Fred. Whatever you do with the schedule, someone will be unhappy. I think that every church should have a Sunday Mass. John: What are we going to do about it? The data speaks for itself, so lets' not change anything. Father Michael: We still do not know how long we will have Fr. Fred. Financially St. Agnes is down. Is this how those who are unhappy are making their wishes known? David: This is something that we need to keep an eye on. |

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| | <p>Mike: Is there an undercurrent of unhappiness at St. Agnes? Whatever we do would still not make everyone happy. Are we sharing attendance, but not financially?</p> <p>John: Maybe an article in the Bulletin.</p> <p>Mike: Father's recommendation is to leave it alone.</p> |
| CMA FATHER MICHAEL FOWLER | <p>Father Michael said that some day during Lent he would make a final plea to make our goals. He received the "lapsed donor list" from the diocese. Letters were sent out last week, without any appreciable response. He is hoping for more results this week.</p> <p>Father Michael said that St. Rose has passed their goal. St. Paul of the Cross and St. Agnes are both at about 70%. Holly asked if the parishioners know that the parish has to make up the difference. It is, in effect, a tax.</p> |
| MASS PROTOCOL FATHER MICHAEL | <p>Father Michael would like to see some consistency between the three parishes in regard to certain practices. There is still not consistency with standing or kneeling at the Lamb of God. Father Michael would like everyone to arrive at least on time for Mass. He would like everyone to have at least five minutes of quiet time before Mass begins. He would like everyone to knee after the Lamb of God is said. Please do not leave until Mass is over. That means after the last hymn is sung. Also you genuflect to the tabernacle not the altar. The Focus on the Mass series will continue be offered again in various venues among the cluster. The idea to relocate the tabernacle at St Paul was introduced at a recent "Focus on ..." session; the one dedicated to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; requested by a parishioner in the spirit of increased reverence for the Blessed Sacrament.</p> |
| JULY 1 | <p>Father Michael's appointment to this cluster was for one year which, will be up June 30th. Parish selection time is in progress now. If you check the diocesan website, you will see those parishes that will be perhaps getting a new priest. Just because a parish is listed does not mean that the current pastor will be leaving as he can apply to remain there.</p> |
| OPEN FORUM | <p>Earll: There is something wrong with the sound system at St. Paul of the Cross. Some folks cannot hear the homilist.</p> <p>Roger: We were thinking about activating the flexible microphone.</p> <p>Earll: They are doing a survey at Mary Ann Cope, combining the Buildings & Grounds and a list of those who can share their talents.</p> <p>Roger: The next months' agenda should be posted with the minutes 1-2 weeks prior to the next meeting.</p> <p>Mike: We can do that. It will give the parishioners a week to review them.</p> <p>June 5th will be the Cluster Picnic.</p> <p>Adoration & Confession – keep up the good work – it is very fulfilling.</p> <p>The Men's Retreat attendance was good, but not great.</p> <p>The Women's Retreat is coming up.</p> |
| FEBRUARY AGENDA | <p>Report from those who are on the committee to find new trustees for the PC</p> <p>Brian Denney will be our guest.</p> |
| NEXT MEETING LOCATION & DATE | <p>St. Agnes</p> <p>March 8, 2016</p> |
| PRAYER & REFRESHMENT | <p>Elizabeth Dowd</p> |

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Joan Reid