

St. Joseph Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
February 8, 2016

Attendees: Fr. Joe Mamich, Joe Keys, Pete Cardello, Tricia Marshall, Ron Andes, Sue Haberman, Sam Pingatore, David Smee, Carol Wallington, Brooklynne Elliot, Bob Singerline, Judy Feador, Rebecca Ciccozzi

Excused: Pat Lupica

Called to Order: Joe Keys called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and led the group in prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes from the December meeting were approved as submitted. Pete Cardello made the motion and was seconded by Sue Haberman.

Commission Reports:

Community Life – There wasn't a Community Life meeting, so there was no official report. However, Ron Andes reported that the first Lenten Dinner is on February 12 and the Chicken Paprikash Dinner is on February 20.

Liturgy – There wasn't a Liturgy meeting, so there was no official report. However, Carol Wallington reported that she is stepping down as Chairperson due to her job responsibilities. She is working with Luke, Fr. Joe, and the Liturgy Commission to find a new Chairperson. Liturgy Commission's next meeting is Tuesday, February 9.

Social Concerns—There wasn't a Social Concerns meeting, so there was no official report. The next meeting is February 15.

Spiritual Life – Sam Pingatore reported that the Legion of Mary is having a Marion devotion with an emphasis on Divine Mercy using 33 Days to Morning Glory. For Adoration, people are not signing into the log sheet. There was a suggestion to have a possible fob system to keep track of attendees. Too expensive to implement. Alpha program to be held on Wednesday evenings. Object is to attract high-school age and above individuals for evenings of faith sharing without being judgmental. Would meet for two hours and include a meal and small group/large group dialogue. Would cover 11 main topics about faith. Encourage PSR parents, who drop children off on Wednesdays for PSR, to attend so that they become more involved in the life of our parish. Facilitators would be trained. Joint venture with St. John Neumann (training would occur in the Fall) and St. Joseph (training in the Spring). Alpha program would replace the current bible studies that are held on Wednesday nights. Other local churches that have Alpha programs include Grace Church, St. Ambrose, and St. Mary's of the Falls.

Stewardship—Tricia reported that 222 Stewardship recommitment forms were returned as of January 18. There will be a "Singles" social on March 19. The event is geared towards single, divorced, widow and widowers and will include a dinner and movie. Event will be free. The "singles" group can possibly do something on Christmas day – serve meals at soup kitchen and then go out to dinner as a group later in the day. Carol Henderson and Kathy Tiede will talk on the last Sunday of February about the dinner. Greeter program update? Joe Keys spoke with Dan Kilbane and stated: There is a Safety Team meeting on Saturday, February 13, at 9:30 a.m.

Dan Kilbane (usher/greeter facilitator) is going to contact one usher from each mass to have them attend the program. Stewardship Commission's next meeting will be a retreat. *Youth/Young Adult*—They have not had a meeting since August. However, Pete Cardello reported that ROCK 36 met on January 9. Attendance was low due to a pasta dinner at the school and St. John Neumann had a lock-in the same night at the rec center. The youth group had a lock-in on Saturday, February 6. There were 30-35 attendees. They visited Crystal Waters, played games in the school gym, and had pizza and watched a movie. PSR attendance is great. VBS planning is underway. There will be a Valentine's Day dance at St. John Neumann, preceded by mass. The Steubenville Youth Conference will be held July 15-17. Brooklynne reported that the middle school youth program is growing, but there are only four high school students. The high school kids will all be going to Steubenville. Fr. Joe mentioned that the teens from St. Joe's and St. John's are bused to Steubenville. The cost of the bus is getting higher, so the proceeds from the Chicken Paprikash Dinner and the Polka dinner offset the cost of the trip.

Welcome Back/Welcome Home: Fr. Joe reported that a program will be held on Sunday, April 24, after the 10:00 mass. Question arose as to whom to invite. Should it be a combined program for those who have been away from the church for a while and also for new parishioners? Possibly have a flyer with what St. Joseph Church has to offer – commissions and their ministries/activities. It will be a non-threatening environment, facilitated by Fr. Anthony and Fr. Joe. Sue Haberman participated in a similar program at St. John's about eight years ago. She gave a witness about coming back to the church. There will be an open forum about why they left and what brought them back. Pete Cardello inquired whether the office has information about parishioners who were gone and then came back and have them do a witness. Fr. Joe said they have information. It was decided to have two separate programs. The Welcome Back program should be postponed so that it can be developed further. Sue Haberman, Bob Singerline, and Pete Cardello volunteered to be on the Welcome Back committee. Fr. Joe will ask Linda Zvoncheck and other staff members if they would like to become involved. Welcome Home will still take place on April 24. Who to invite? Do we contact those newly registered since January or go back several months (e.g. June)? Sue suggested that Terry Brlas from The Post be contacted to do a free write-up about the event. Sue also said that Sr. Pat has resources available to assist with our programs.

Nominees for PPC Vice Chairperson 2016-17: Judy Feador will be moving into the role as PPC Chair. The individuals currently eligible to be considered for Vice Chair include David Smee, Bob Singerline, Sam Pingatore, and Sue Haberman. Joe Keys asked those four individuals to pray about the Vice Chair position and let PPC know at the next meeting if they would like to become Vice Chair. Joe told them to look at the PPC Guidelines on the website for Vice Chair responsibilities.

PPC New Member Discernment – May 9, 2016: Current PPC members whose three year terms are expiring include Joe Keys, Rebecca Ciccozzi, Ron Andes, and Tricia Marshall, so there are four vacancies that need to be filled. Fr. Joe will put something in the bulletin in April. People can either be nominated by someone else or nominate themselves. The discernment

committee will be comprised of Joe Keys (Chairperson), Judy Feador (Vice Chair), Fr. Joe, the new Vice Chair, and one at large member (to be determined at the April PPC meeting). Joe and Judy will call potential PPC candidates and invite them to the meeting. Outgoing PPC members can go through the discernment process if they wish to stay on PPC.

Pastor's Remarks: Fr. Joe

Finances: As of 12/31/15, offertory collections are \$7,880 ahead of budget, maintenance and repairs are \$2,170 ahead of budget, and operating surplus is \$75,041 ahead of budget (this amount includes a bequeath of \$85,000 to St. Joseph Parish). The *Appreciation Dinner* will now be a luncheon and will be held on Sunday, March 6, after the noon mass. *Eucharistic Devotion* begins March 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the church and commences March 6 thru the end of the noon mass. Sign-ups will be on the website and in the Gathering Area. The *Baptismal Program* (refer to the December minutes) has had a good reception with the office staff. Carol Wallington will meet with the deacons. The current *Nursery/Preschool Program* will continue in the Cave during Lent as a drop-in program. Only 3-4 families expressed an interest in an ongoing Nursery/Preschool Program. Fr. Joe had a write-up in the Jan. 24 Pastor's Column. He received one negative email about taking children out of mass; that we were sending a message that children are not welcome in church. *Power of 10²* – There were 10-12 people who stepped forward to be on the steering committee. If anyone would like to become involved, send Fr. Joe an email. *Confessions* have become very popular. Fifteen minutes is being added to the Saturday confession schedule to allow more individuals to come to reconciliation. Two changes for Saturday confession: The priest who is having the 4:30 mass will have a sign on his confessional door indicating that he needs to leave at 4:00 to prepare for mass. Secondly, no additional people may get in line after 4:00. Cuts too close to mass time.

Open Forum: Judy Feador inquired about a few items that were ongoing from the December meeting. As a follow-up to the discussion on "*Courage and EnCourage*", is St. Joseph doing anything to advise individuals with same-sex attraction and/or their family members that programs exist for them? Fr. Joe said that Fr. Anthony takes up this matter with individuals. He will ask Fr. Anthony about promoting Courage and EnCourage through our website. The *Hand Sanitizer Dispenser* used by the Eucharistic Ministers doesn't dispense hand sanitizer too quickly. Fr. Joe said Dennis adjusted the dispenser timer and it should now work more efficiently. In the event EM's sit on the chapel side of the church, they can come up to the altar from the left side rather than walk all the way to the right side. There is a pump hand sanitizer on the bottom shelf of the credence table that EM's can use. Will *Ministry Fairs* continue? Rebecca said that the Stewardship Commission thought that the ministry fairs were ineffective and that major changes needed to be made if they are to continue. In the past, there was one large ministry fair. It was too overwhelming for parishioners. Suggestions brought up included having a flyer in the bulletin the week prior to each ministry fair with an overview of what each commission has to offer and to have a speaker from each commission talk about the ministry fair to get people interested. The current ministry fairs have become a little excessive – matching table cloths, fancy display boards, too many pictures, and too much information. Less is more—keep it simple: a few pictures, not too much wording. Another idea was to push tables against the wall and have commission members stand in front of the tables to greet

parishioners and answer any questions they may have. Sue Haberman is on the Stewardship Commission, which prepares the quarterly newsletter. They are always looking for items to include in the newsletter. Newsletters come out the first Sunday of March, June, September, and December. Deadline for submitting articles is about 1 ½ month prior to publication. All commissions should be made aware of this beneficial resource and utilize it. The *Bulletin App* comes out on Sunday at about 10:00 a.m. Bob Singerline thought it would be nice if it came out on Saturday. Fr. Joe said the bulletin company can be contacted by anyone to have notifications sent earlier.

Fr. Joe said that *Guest Speakers* will now have a four-minute limit to speak. Luke will be timing guest speakers. After four minutes, Luke will start playing music to signal they need to finish.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Feador