



Parish of Saint Maximilian Kolbe
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Open/Finance Council Meeting
Thursday, November 16, 2017

Members in Attendance: Father Peter Joyce, Georgette Costello, Jodi George, Anita McMahon, Gary Mruz, Jacquie Olansen, Shannon O'Reilly, Tim O'Shea, Jose Santiago, Marie Zelinski, Bill Zipparo

Opening Prayer: Marie Zelinski

Pastoral Council Facilitator: Bill Zipparo

Welcome to New Members: Bill Zipparo welcomed Tim O'Shea as a new member and Shannon O'Reilly and Breanna Laverty as student representatives.

Approval of Minutes: Gary Mruz made a motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting and Jodi George seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- **Capital Campaign for the Paris/Community Center:** The goal of \$1.75M in pledges has been met. However, the goal is to not only raise the needed funds but to also have the parish come together as a community through this endeavor. The Redemption Phase will begin the first week of January 2018. A grateful thank you to all the parishioners for making this a successful campaign and to the committee members who worked so diligently.
- **Bishop McHugh signage:** The creation of the signage is moving forward with the contractor.
- **St. Casimir Feast Day:** March 4, 2018 is the Feast Day of St. Casimir for which a celebration will be planned.
- **Parish Retreat:** Father Tom McCarthy, OSA, will lead a retreat on Divine Mercy Sunday - April 8, 9, and 10. Donna Britt will lead a parish mission during Lent.
- **Hispanic Ministry:** Finding a Spanish-speaking priest has been difficult. We are fortunate to have the assistance of Father Blieler and are hopeful for his continued assistance.
- **Cushions on Pews:** Father Pete will meet with Jack Griffin and the committee to select the pew cushions and kneelers.
- **Classroom Carpeting:** Bill Kroger is attempting to get the best price available for the carpeting which will be installed by members of the parish.
- **All Souls Mass:** The Mass was beautiful and well attended. It was suggested that the names be read more slowly; however, it was noted that with the number of families it would be extremely difficult to wait for each to light the candles.
- **Thanksgiving Baskets:** On Monday, November 20, the Thanksgiving baskets at COTR will be assembled and given out to the needy. At present, 90 families have signed up for the baskets. St. Casimir will distribute Thanksgiving meals on November 20, 21, and 22.

- **Carmel Boyle/Voyage of St. Brenden:** “An awesome”, “calming presentation” were some of the comments from those who attended. Thank you to Kathy Brewer for bringing this program to COTR.
- **Giving Tree at COTR:** The Giving Tree will be placed in the Gathering Area of COTR the weekend after Thanksgiving. Since there is no longer a KofC council at St. Casimir, it was not clear as to whether there would be a giving tree placed there.
- **Rite of Admission/Bonfire:** On December 3, the candidates for Confirmation will be presented at the 5p.m. Mass at COTR. This will be followed by the annual bonfire.
- **Covenant House:** Jim Kelly of the Knights of Columbus will be speaking at all the Masses the weekend of December 2/3 explaining about the Covenant House and the gift giving for the young adults who live there.
- **Advent Penance Service:** The annual Penance Service will be held at COTR at 7p.m., December 12.
- **Toys for Tots:** The Knights of Columbus will be obtaining toys from “Toys for Tots” on December 12 at 6p.m. Volunteers are needed to help pick out age appropriate toys for those in need.
- **Bambinelli Sunday:** On Sunday, December 17, at the 9:30 Mass, parishioners may bring their “baby Jesus” from their home nativity set to church to be blessed. A table will be placed on the altar for this blessing.
- **Feed the Needy:** On Saturday, December 23, the Knights of Columbus will be delivering food and toys to those in need throughout the community. Volunteers are needed to assist in delivering these items.
- **Church decorating:** The two churches will be decorated on December 21 or 22, depending on delivery of the flowers. With Christmas falling on a Monday, it is necessary to decorate early.

New Business:

- **Drug Overdosing:** Tim O’Shea asked if there was anything the Parish could do to help address/alleviate this problem. Father Pete mentioned that the Ministerium had also wrestled with this problem. One suggestion was to hold an “In Plain Sight” which helps adults become aware of where teenagers and other young adults might be hiding their drugs. Marie Zelinski will look into how we can bring the program to our parish.
- **Puerto Rico:** There was considerable discussion regarding the situation in Puerto Rico following the devastation from the hurricanes this summer. Jose Santiago has been sending packages to a relative in Puerto Rico to distribute to those in need. It was suggested that perhaps we could adopt a “sister church” in Puerto Rico to assure that any donations made get to those in need. Anita McMahon will speak to Dave Dempsey regarding the possibility of ferrying the donations as the cost of shipping is very expensive. Father Pete added that he was very grateful for the outpouring from the parish of donations after Irma and Harvey.

Final Thoughts: Like having food; great idea; excited capital campaign fund reached; wonderful things going on; great parish; very powerful; welcome to the new members; thanks for having me; Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas

Action Items:

- **Cushions on Pews:** Father Pete, Jodi George, Gary Mruz, Bill Zipparo
- **Capital Campaign:** All
- **Parish Retreat:** Father Pete
- **Hispanic Representation:** Jose Santiago

- ***Bishop McHugh Signage:*** Father Pete/Anita McMahon
- ***Cleaning of Pews:*** Father Pete
- ***"In Plain Sight":*** Marie Zelinski
- ***Ferrying items to Puerto Rico:*** Anita McMahon

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 11, 2018 @ 7p.m. in the Extension

Prayer: Gary Mruz

Refreshments: Bill Zipparo

Final Prayer: Father Pete