

# ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

March 24, 2015

## Minutes

**Present:** Kevin Axe, Damian Barta, Cynthia Judge, Jose Juan Moreno, Theresa Buckman-Gilbert, James Holzhauser-Chuckas, Torrick Ward, Derrick Blakley, Sheila Hebein, Debra Evans, Dan Vicencio, Friar Bob Cook

**Guest:** Tom Lenz

**Absent:** Blanca Lule, Betsy Quinn Father Bill

**Opening Prayer** - Friar Bob Cook offered the opening prayer.

**Minutes** of the February 24, 2015 meeting were reviewed prior to the meeting. James H-C moved that the minutes be accepted, seconded by Torrick W. and were approved unanimously.

**Parish Update** - Friar Bob noted that there were a lot of activities in the parish. Sally Arden's resignation as Office Manager was announced. The pastor will be making the decision as to when the position will be filled. At present, a number of part time staff members have increased their hours to help during the vacancy.

**Parish Retreat** – PPC members who attended the retreat on March 21 felt it went very well and was well received.

**Parish Calendar** – Sheila H. and Maureen Connelly, our Business Manager, have been discussing the need for the parish calendar to be developed during May, because there are many benefits to advanced planning. When the parish is asked to include unscheduled activities throughout the year, such requests might be forwarded to the PPC for its input.

**Second Collections** - The PPC noted that there seemed to be an increasing number of second collections. PPC members suggested that policies and procedures regarding second collections be developed. Torrick W. is willing to work on this.

**Fundraising** – In discussing the Mission Trip, it was felt that fundraisers such as the stock sale and car wash should be limited to specific weekends and they should not conflict with the general fundraising activities of the parish.

### **Transformation Implementation Report:**

- **Diversity Statement** – Dan V presented the Diversity Statement. He asked PC members to read it and to give him any feedback and he will then finalize it.
- **Mass Survey**- There was a lengthy discussion of the Mass Survey, which the

Transformation Liturgy and Prayer Committee has prepared. The PPC discussed the survey elements and the logistics of how the survey would be presented and completed. Jose M reported on how the Hispanic community leaders' meeting was conducted. It was very well attended and it offered community leaders an opportunity to discuss the survey and how it might be handled. Jose recommended that the Mass Survey be handed out during the 1 pm Mass right after a very brief homily and the presider could walk the congregation through it just as they did recently with a diocesan survey. It was then recommended that we handle both the English and Spanish Masses in the same way, so the survey will be handed out at all the Masses and the presider will walk the congregation through it on the weekend of April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The survey will also be available for the following 2 weekends and the deadline for the survey is April 26, 2015. The survey will also be available for download on the parish website. Cynthia J. suggested that members of the Parish Council be at the various masses to collect surveys. Sheila H will be sending out an email to get PPC members to all the Masses to collect surveys. Friar Bob mentioned that there might be too many activities for April 11/12. The weekend of April 18/19 can be a better weekend.

**Youth Formation** was discussed by James H-C and Damian B. James noted that youth ministers for New Horizons have been reconvened and about 25 youth have been in contact with the New Horizons ministry staff. More outreach will include parent education/info in a "Family Night". SCORE partnership has been developed with the assistance of Sr. Christina. Partnership with St Athanasius and St Mary's youth ministries will be explored. Friar Bob also noted that St Joan of Arc has been looking to partner with other area parishes. James noted the tentative schedule for New Horizons events in the near future. The present circulation lists of the interested youth have almost an equal number of Spanish/Bilingual and English speaking members.

Damian noted that the New Horizons pancake breakfast was well attended. James also noted that the pancake breakfast made a profit this year. There was increased participation due to assistance from the SCORE class.

**New Business:** Cynthia J noted that Pope John XXIII will be doing a day of service in commemoration of the canonization of St John XXIII. Pope John students will be working with students at the Rice Center as part of their day of service. This hopefully will lay the groundwork for future interactions between the two schools.

**Closing Prayer** was given by Jose M.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm