

ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

July 28, 2015

Minutes

Present: Kevin Axe, Damian Barta, Derrick Blakley, Debra Evans, Cynthia Judge, Jose Juan Moreno, Sheila Hebein, Betsy Quinn, Dan Vicencio, Torrick Ward and Fr. Mike Ahlstrom

Absent: Theresa Gilbert-Buckman and Blanca Lule,

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Opening Prayer – Kevin Axe offered the opening prayer.

Minutes of the June 23, 2015 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Betsy Quinn and seconded by Damian Barta. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Parish Update - Fr Mike presented an update on the Parish activities:

- The Feast of the Assumption is on Saturday, August 15 and is NOT a holy day of obligation. There will only be one Mass on that day and it will be bilingual. Damian B. volunteered to print the readings in both English and Spanish for those not fluent in those languages.
- Mission Sunday we will have 3 missionary preachers.
- The new principal of PJ23 School will introduce herself at all Masses on the weekend of September 19-20 (Catechetical Sunday).
- Confirmation will be held at St Nicholas on Saturday, January 30, 2016.

Pastor Transition

Cynthia J and Jose M announced that the Pastor Transition Team will be meeting on Monday, August 3, 2015. A small advance team met with update Fr Mike on July 7th to bring Fr. Mike up-to-date and also to plan for the August 3rd meeting of the larger group.

Parish Transformation Update:

Mass Survey –Sheila gave a report on the Mass survey. A subcommittee of the Liturgy and Prayer group will be meeting on August 4th. The PPC discussed various Mass schedules in the surrounding areas. It is hoped that parish-wide discussions will be held in the early fall when more parishioners are present.

Mission Trip – Thirteen members of our community are serving the people of Appalachia at Bethlehem Farm in West Virginia – they left on July 25th.

Pope John XXIII – No report on the school this month because of the summer break.

PPC Retreat – Sheila asked for help with the planning of the retreat and Kevin volunteered to assist. After further discussion, Fr. Mike graciously agreed to do the retreat. A vote was taken and unanimously agreed that Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Members not present will be contacted by Sheila to see if this date works for them.

Year of Mercy – Damian B. noted that there will be a number of bulletin articles related to the Year of Mercy and Pope Francis' call to live a life of Mercy. The Adult Formation team will be developing educational materials in English. Jose M. asked when the committee will be planning the series. The members of the PPC noted that Lois Shuford is the leader of the English Adult Faith Formation committee.

United Power-Damian B noted that United Power will be discussing mental health and the incarceration of people with active mental health issues. The United Power will be moving toward educating the congregations on the connection between mental health and interactions with the law enforcement community. Mary Jo Huck and Barbara Blough are representing St Nicholas on this issue.

New Business – Sheila H mentioned that she had received some inquiries about how decisions are made at St. Nicholas. Torrick W. had raised some similar issues and is currently looking to sketch out an organization chart of the parish and its committees. This might be helpful to newcomers and those have inquiries about services in the parish and how decisions are made.

Sheila mentioned that the Stewardship Committee is working on the parish finance/annual report.

Next PPC Meeting – The next meeting of the PPC will be held on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Mike offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.