

## ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

February 28, 2017

### Minutes

**Present:** Kevin Axe, Damian Barta, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Jose Moreno, Betsy Quinn, Fr. Joe Tito and Dan Vicencio

**Absent:** Deb Evans and Derrick Blakley

**Opening Prayer** – Fr. Joe offered the opening prayer.

**Minutes** – The minutes of the January 24, 2017 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Jose M, and seconded by Damian B. They were unanimously approved.

**Parish Updates** – Fr. Tito gave the Parish Updates:

**Music Director Position Update** – A candidate has accepted the position but final negotiations are currently taking place to set up the position for the new candidate. The new candidate would not be available until the end of May due to responsibilities at her current parish.

**Update on PPC Membership:** Fr Tito discussed the timing of new PPC members being selected to join the PPC. It was mentioned that it was important to look over our Parish Transformation goals and objectives and also at the people who participated. Self-nominations are presently being accepted. The PPC discussed possible changes to the self-nomination forms. Fr Tito will give an update on the self-nomination process at the next PPC meeting. The possibility of grouping Parish Ministries to select future PPC members in order to get a PPC membership representing the wide range of Parish activities was discussed. Gradually bringing on new members to replace the longest serving PPC members is the plan. A Spanish version of the self-nomination forms would be produced for next week's masses.

**Youth Ministry-** St Nicholas will be hosting a Youth Mass on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the 4:30 PM Mass. The Youth Mass will be rotated through the 4 parishes (St Nicholas, St Mary, St Athanasius, and St Joan of Arc). There is now a commitment from four parishes to fund an AREA youth minister. This AREA youth minister would be interfacing with local schools and managing the ministry's social media presence. Local youth ministry would still be present in a different form with increased mentoring from the local Parish community.

**Parish Grouping** – The PPC discussed activities that could be done as Parish Groupings are starting up. The staffs of Evanston parishes are already meeting quarterly. In addition, meetings of Parish Pastoral Council representatives was also discussed to bring the local leaders up to speed on what is already being done and what each Parish's transformation

goals were.

**Parish Announcement Policies** – There was input from the staff, which will be written up by Fr Tito for incorporation and adoption at the next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council.

**Winter Parish Party** – The attendance at this year’s parish party was around 300. The PPC was asked whether or not we felt it was OK to hold the parish party during Lent. After a lengthy discussion, the Council felt it was not a good idea to have the party during Lent. Our recommendation was to consider a spring date – perhaps at the end of April – after Easter. Sheila will get back to Chris Murphy with this information.

**Name Tags** – Following up on our discussion at the last meeting of the PPC, Damian had found nametags used by an Episcopal Church. There was a discussion of whether or not we should use nametags during certain times of the month – perhaps on Coffee Cake Sunday. No recommendation was made.

**Vision Keepers** – Sheila H reported that Yvonne Smith was very honored to be St. Nicholas’ Vision Keeper. The Vision Keeper Dinner was held at the Orrington Hotel the night following our Winter Parish Party. St. Nick’s had 26 people in attendance.

**Signs at St. Nicholas** – Rather than adding a new sign outside, we have included “All Are Welcome” on the front page of the bulletin right above the mission statement.

**Military Families** - Sheila H. received an enquiry from a parishioner asking if St. Nicholas would be interested in starting a ministry for military families. The PPC members discussed the need for clarification of the ministry proposal. Sheila would contact the point person and possibly arrange a bulletin announcement to determine if there is an interest in the parish for this type of ministry. Sheila was also asked to point out that it might be worth the parishioner seeking a ministry among several nearby parishes.

**United Power** – Damian B gave a report about the community organizing workshop and the development of projects that could affect the local community. The meeting was held at St. Gertrude’s and about 12 member of St Nick’s attended.

**Pope John XXIII School** – Cynthia J. noted that the school connections would be strengthened, but there was no report this month, because of the busy school schedule.

**Hispanic Ministries** – Fr. Tito wanted to convene a meeting of members of the Hispanic ministries to get a PPC connected subcommittee in order to find new PPC members from the Hispanic community. This subcommittee would be a good way to get news back to the broader community.

**Closing Prayer:** Everyone recited the Our Father

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

