

**ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**September 26, 2017**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Fabiola Alfonso, Damian Barta, Nora Bondi, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Suzanne LeFevre, Jose Moreno, Michael O'Donovan, Betsy Quinn, Yvonne Smith, Fr. Joe Tito

**Absent:** 0

**Opening Prayer** - Father Tito opened with a prayer at 7:05 pm and Michael O'Donovan read the second reading of the day and we prayed for some intercessions

**Minutes** – The minutes of the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting were reviewed and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Betsy Quinn and seconded by Yvonne Smith. All approved with no changes.

Sheila previewed the evening's agenda

**Parish Update – Fr. Joe Tito**

- **Sharing Fest** – Father Tito announced that there would be no Sharing Fest this year because the committee was unable to do it. The same people have been running this important event for many years. Rosalie Murphy will be making a trip to Haiti, to assess needs. Generally, the parishes in Mexico that we were helping with the funds raised are now doing well.
- There is a plan in place for Rosalie to write an article for the bulletin, explaining this decision. Jose will write something for the Staff.
- We should also put something in the bulletin expressing our thanks to those who have assisted with this important event throughout the years.
- A question as to whether or not the parish should add an event next fall instead of a Sharing Fest was discussed - either as a Fundraiser or a "Friendraiser". Further discussion is needed. There is still a lot going on at St. Nick's.
  
- **Bike Racks** will be installed soon. Sheila mentioned that Steve Perkins, chair of the Green Team, recently retired and moved to Michigan. The Green Team still has a solid membership.
  
- **Church Sound System:** the parish is hiring an installer. The sound company is Threshold Acoustics. Parish is looking for a contractor to install cloth on the walls. Hoping to have the work completed by the beginning of Lent.
  
- **"Bike the Ridge"** – Father Tito indicated that a Welcome Table in front of church would be provided this year. A staff member will make a small flyer listing upcoming activities and this will be handed to bikers. We need volunteers to be at our tables, from 9:00 – 1:00 p.m.

- Discussion about the PPC having **3 subcommittees**: Youth, Welcome and Engagement and Liturgy. Sheila will touch base with PPC members to gauge their interest in working on one of these three areas.
- Liturgy Board and Liturgy Committee continue to meet. Mass Schedule for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were discussed. There may be a bilingual 10:00 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day.
- Youth Mentoring Program was discussed. Ten or 11 teens are signed up.
- Music Director, Ace, is working with young instrumentalists for the Teen Mass.
- In response to a question about our youth minister, it was reported by Fr. Tito that this is not a salaried position at this time but a stipend is provided.
- **Serving Young Families**: Nora Bondi began a discussion about the need for a continuum of offerings for families – Baptism and beyond. She meets with a group from St. Nick’s who call themselves “Faith Moms.” How do we make our physical space more welcoming for new families? There will be a Book Bag Tree and Bren Murphy is working on this. Lots of options – signage in Church, Family Mass, outings, etc.
- **Mary Burke-Peterson** gave a presentation on a project she is working on. She is beginning her fourth year as Baptism Coordinator at St. Nick’s, particularly for English-speaking families. She is pursuing a Masters in Pastoral Studies at Loyola University, working on a project for one of her classes, Chris Murphy is her mentor. The theme of the project is “How do we as a Parish Support the Development of Faith in Young Families?” Mary is formulating a Questionnaire – a Needs Assessment – that will be given out and/or put on line. She has committed to working on this issue beyond her class and will work on it for a year. PPC was very supportive of this project. Fr. Tito mentioned that the Finance Council is also looking at supporting new families.
- **Youth Initiatives**: Damian Barta passed out information on several Youth initiatives.
- Discussion of how we must be role models for youth. Perhaps there needs to be a workshop on how to be a good mentor
- Discussion about the Council being more action- focused.
- How can we help DACA kids?
- Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Judge