

ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

April 24, 2018

Minutes

Present: Nora Bondi, Damian Barta, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Suzanne Lefevre, Michael O'Donovan, Betsy Quinn, Yvonne Smith and Fr. Joe Tito

Absent: Fabiola Alfonso and Jose Juan Moreno

Opening Prayer – Fr. Tito gave the Opening Prayer.

Minutes – The minutes of the April 3, 2018 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Suzanne and seconded by Betsy. They were unanimously approved.

Parish Updates – Fr. Joe

Youth

Summer Activities: James will be around all summer. This year he won't be working at Kids Playing Camp, except for one week.

Our youth are making lots of connections with each other, with friends and with family.

James has met with pastors, from St. Mary's, St. A's and St. Joan of Arc. He also met with Youth Leaders at each parish. James will be a resource for each of the three parishes, but he will not be the implementer for every Parish.

Our youth will be attending a one-day mission this summer at Our Lady of the Angels in Humboldt Park. They will also attend a Youth Conference in Wisconsin, which will involve staying over for 2 nights.

It was recommended that James write down his "daily activities" to document the work he does. It's important to keep track of his time and how it's spent. It's also important for James to take care of himself because working for all the parishes could be challenging.

The recent Lock-in was a big success – they are tiring for everyone!

Our hope is that our young people are involved in the world and can stand for something.

We have a good Youth Board that is made up of older Teens.

During Lent our young adults met once – it was a wine and scripture night. There is also a theology teacher at Loyola Academy who is interested in helping with our young adults.

There will be Theology on Tap this summer in Evanston.

V Encuentro

This is the fifth time that Hispanics in the U.S. have come together. The last one was in the year 2000. There will be a Regional Meeting in June at Notre Dame and a National meeting in Dallas in September.

Seventy of the 200 people that attended the Diocesan meeting last Saturday were youth. They had a Question and Answer session with Cardinal Cupich. One young woman asked the Cardinal about female vocations and a young man asked about the deportation of DACA kids.

The USCCB will make recommendations on: Youth, Formation and Immigration

There was a discussion about the need to be careful when we speak about various groups in our community – we should try to avoid “them and us” – we are one community and we should make sure the terminology is “we.”

Liturgy

Comments or suggestions about the Triduum liturgies should be emailed to Lynne Mapes-Riordan. The Liturgy Committee discussed this at their meeting last week and it was noted that Chris Murphy’s absence was felt and there were lessons to be learned in his absence.

Use of Space update

AA and other “non-Essential” ministries are being evaluated; Yoga will be held here once a month. Ridgeville Park District should still be looked at as an option for “non-Essential: ministries.

The SPRED group is full and in the future there may be a need for a second one.

Parish staff is currently working on next year’s calendar.

Finances

The financial report for the first 9 months of the fiscal year will be in the bulletin this week. Contributions are stable and sustaining.

GIVE CENTRAL – There was a discussion of Give Central and it was reported that now we have internet access in the back of the church and in the sacristy, people will be able to get more information and assistance in signing up for this way of giving after Mass. Several people felt this was a good idea and we should make regular announcements about this.

Other

Welcome and Engagement - The focus of our May 22nd PPC meeting will be Welcome and Engagement. Several Council members are interested in assisting with the work of this committee. It was suggested that the following people be contacted and invited to attend: Marion Flynn, Andrea Infante-Martinez, Barbara Mott and Dan Mapes-Riordan.

PPC Reports –

About ten days ago Nora forwarded the content for the sign regarding our services to young children to Malachy Cross. She hopes to have it in the near future. Nora will work with Alex Lule in getting more detailed information about this on our website.

It was recommended that we announce that our nursery is up and going during the 9 am Mass. We should encourage people to get involved and we should also thank those who are helping to run the nursery.

Nine members of our Latino community are finishing a year of Leadership Training and they will be exploring other ministries and ways they can be involved.

Winter Parish Party – many events have been held and many more are scheduled. They are proving to be successful and they are a good way to get to know other parishioners.

Catholic Charities – Damian and Yvonne attended a meeting at Mary Seat of Wisdom, Park Ridge. The meeting focused on Mental Health and outreach. Two social workers gave the presentation and they indicated that Catholic Charities offers a wide range of services. They offer mental health services to parishioners – their services are not free – but they accept insurance Medicare/Medicaid and a sliding scale for payment. Two people are on call 24/7 for their intake services and there is no waiting list.

There was a lot of discussion about youth: anxiety, suicide, depression and bullying.

There is also a mental health pilot program for Deacons and it is believed that Chris Murphy is involved with this program.

It was felt that there might be a crossover here for United Power.

There was a discussion about how mental health issues might be something that all the parishes in Evanston could work on together. How do we tell our own stories and help to break down barriers? It would also be good to find out about the services that Interfaith Action of Evanston offers.

There have been 3 public gatherings in Evanston throughout the last year on the topic of Mental Health.

STAND AGAINST HATE is this Friday, April 27th from 2 to 2:30 in Evanston and everyone was encouraged to attend.

Announcements – Cynthia

Those handling the announcements should be at Mass no later than 10 minutes before it starts. Always be aware of editing them. Check in with Marion, so she knows you have it covered.

Closing Prayer – Sheila did the closing prayer

Minutes submitted by

Cynthia Judge