

St. Nicholas Parish Pastoral Council  
August 28, 2018

PRESENT: Father Tito, Damian Barta, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Suzanne Lefevre, Arturo Medina, Jose Juan Moreno, Michael O'Donovan, Betsy Quinn

ABSENT: Fabiola Alfonso, Nora Bondi, Yvonne Smith

Meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

**Opening Prayer – Fr. Tito**

**Minutes** – A motion to approve the July 24th, 2018 Minutes was made by Betsy, seconded by Damian and were unanimously approved.

There was a lengthy discussion of abuse within the Church. Chris Murphy's homily on the weekend of August 25/26 was discussed and commended. Chris has set up a meeting to be held in September with the former Women in the Diaconate Group of St. Nicholas. The PPC was updated about what had taken place previously with that group, including a White Paper delivered to Cardinal George in a very positive in-person meeting. Pope Francis was sent the White Paper, along with a prayer shawl and brochures, shortly after he was elected. Cardinal Cupich was also sent the materials.

There have been numerous requests to various PPC members to hold a meeting where parishioners could share ideas for action, as well as personal reactions to the Abuse Scandal. The PPC will move forward to organize Listening Sessions (as have been successfully held twice in recent years) after Masses on a weekend in the early Fall. Father Tito is in full support of looking for new ideas and answers.

**Parish Updates – Fr. Tito**

- **Renew My Church:** A meeting will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> for representatives from the entire Archdiocese. Father Tito will attend, along with Deacons Chris Murphy and Jaime Rojas, Alejandra Lule-Rivera, and several others from our Parish.
- **Website:** work still needs to be done to enable staff to have access to input items on the website. Also, it was suggested that the design be simplified, as well as giving people the ability to read it in either English or Spanish.
- **September 9<sup>th</sup>:** St. Nick's will be joining the Evanston Reformation 500 and Beyond Volunteer Day in a variety of service projects. One project includes

cleaning, painting and moving furniture between the Library and the Nursery in the Rectory basement.

- Youth: James needs more volunteers for Friday night drop-in nights.
- The Chapel will have 4 air conditioning units installed. Over the summer, the floor became wet with humidity, which was a danger to parishioners.

### **PPC Reports**

- Lemonade on the Lawn was a success! It provided a true opportunity for community-building from parishioners who attended both 9:00 a.m. Masses.
- Nora's work on signage for Children's Programs, and information in the Bulletin has still not happened. It was recommended that book bags be placed at the Ridge Avenue entrance for families who sit there.
- The Mexican Fiesta (a Winter Parish Party sign-up event held on August 19<sup>th</sup>) was another good community building event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m., with prayer led by Father Tito.