

St. Nicholas Parish Pastoral Council
June 25, 2019

Present: Father Joseph Tito, Nora Bondi, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Arturo Medina, Jose Juan Moreno, Michael O'Donovan, Betsy Quinn, Yvonne Smith, Juan Jose Velasco

Absent: Suzanne Lefevre

Opening Prayer: 7:04 p.m. Today's Gospel was read.

Approval of April 30th Minutes: Yvonne made a motion to accept the minutes, Betsy seconded and they were accepted unanimously.

Parish Update – Father Tito

- Sister Christina's farewell - After the 9:00 a.m. Mass on July 21st, we will have a reception with cake to officially say thank you for all her years of service to St. Nicholas. Deb Winarski is doing a photo book, Pat Tomich will pick out scripture readings to accompany the photos. The Parish is buying her a gift.
- Jose Chavez Velandia, our new Director of Religious Education, will begin on August 1st. He has been meeting with Father Tito on his current day off, to acquaint himself with our Parish. He will write an article for the bulletin, introducing himself.
- Dr. Molly Cinnamon was here on Sunday, June 23rd, at the Unity Mass, accompanied by her daughter (a junior at ETHS) and her son (a Freshman in college). She is looking forward to beginning on July 1st.
- Renew My Church – Cardinal Cupich held a meeting with all priests concerning Renew My Church. The focus was on building the new reality of what the Archdiocese will look like. There is not necessarily a shortage of priests, but a shortage of pastors. New pastors do get a good training at Mundelein, covering human formation, sexuality, financial training, among other things. It is necessary to go out and listen to people, find out what they are thinking and what is important to them. Bishop Casey from Vicariate 3 gave a good talk about pastors needing to be converted, with new attitudes and new ways of being.
- Youth Ministry raised close to \$6,000 at the mini Kermes, held after the Unity Mass. The exact figures will be calculated to include some additional donations on line. It was a success and will help to offset the cost of losing a \$10,000 grant that we had last year for Youth Ministry.
- Tacos and soccer was held in James Park on June 22nd. Seventy people came and a lot of money was raised. With our very busy parish, we need to communicate more effectively about events on the calendar, to ensure that interpersonal conflicts don't arise.

- We are getting estimates about the bathrooms in Oldershaw Hall. Also, since so much emphasis has been placed on raising money for these bathrooms, the parish should receive an update about the progress.
- A consultant has been hired for the website, it may go live in September.
- Our budget was approved. We are down slightly in collections, but fundraising has helped tremendously.
- We need additional VIRTUS trainers.

PPC Reports

- Yvonne and Sheila finished the Welcome Card for new/visiting parishioners. Sheila created a guide for the ushers; Yvonne has spoken with the 11:00 ushers. PPC members should try to help the ushers see newcomers/visitors. The cards are in baskets at all the Church entrances. Some ushers went to a Formation Night, which they found very helpful in its ideas of creating a culture of welcoming. Many thanks to Sheila and Yvonne for all their efforts.
- James would like to recognize/welcome new youth/young adults. He wants to begin a Radical Welcoming Project this summer, where two people involved in Youth or Young Adult Ministry are at each Mass.
- Lemonade on the Lawn will begin on Sunday, June 30th. Various ministries will be in charge of it for the rest of the summer.
- Sheila reported on attending the Archdiocesan Parish Council (APC) and Archdiocesan Woman's Council (AWC) Meeting on Saturday, June 15th. She will replace Julie Bergeron on the AWC.
- August PPC Meeting: Sheila has invited members of St. Mary's and St. Athanasius Parishes to come to this meeting. Five people so far are able to attend.
- Father's Day Reflections were given at all 5 Masses by Parishioners, all were well-received. Chris Murphy gave the reflection at the 9:00 a.m. Mass in English and the Parish was able to thank him for his service.
- United Power has had some significant successes. Yvonne reported on the efforts concerning affordable housing and crisis intervention team training. Real progress has been made. Thank you, Yvonne.
- Yvonne and Sheila met again with Demitrous Cook, Evanston's new Chief of Police.
- Active shooter training will happen for the ushers.
- Temporary signs about Programs for children in the Parish look good. Color should be added in the permanent signs. Thanks to Nora for her efforts.

- St. Nick's will have a float in the Evanston Fourth of July Parade.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.