

St. Nicholas Parish Pastoral Council

November 19, 2019

Present: Father Joseph Tito, Nora Bondi, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Arturo Medina, Juan Jose Velasco

Absent: Suzanne Lefevre, Michael O'Donovan, Betsy Quinn, Yvonne Smith
Jose Juan Moreno

Guest: Traci Laffey (Traci sat in on the first hour of our meeting, as a potential new PPC member)

Meeting began at 7:10 p.m..

Opening Prayer: All.

Approval of October 22, 2019: They were unanimously approved.

Parish Update – Father Tito

- **Winter Parish Party committee meeting is happening tonight.** Sara Burson is the chair, there are lots of people working on committees. Marta and Elena are representing the Hispanic community.
- **St. Nick's Fest** Planning is going well. There will be no Vespers that evening. There will be the Guadalupe Novena. Also, the Youth will lead a Rosary beginning in the cafeteria, and continuing as people walk along Washington Street, which will be decorated. Bishop Nicholas will come to the Cafeteria to lead the procession. We are looking for a large participation from Pope John XXIII School children. Raffle ticket sales are moving slowly.
- **Annual Parish meeting with Spanish speaking members** took place on Monday, November 11th. People from every committee were represented. Jose Chavez spoke.
- **Day of the Dead** event on Sunday, November 3rd in Oldershaw Hall. It was noted that what was on display (family altars) gave further explanation to what we do in the Church during Novembering. First

grade SCORE class came over during class time. Hopefully, this event will be repeated next year and more SCORE classes can visit.

- There is a conflict concerning events held in the chapel (Charismatic group) and the gym (Youth group) on Friday nights. Many youth are coming on Friday evenings from the Evanston parishes. Discussion of various options took place.
- **Youth Group** is quite active in Latin American countries. We need to continue to look for ways to involve more Anglo youth. There is an unmet need with that group.
- **Liturgy** More catechists are needed. Lisa is training for the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Brian Michalski left. Jenna is busier than she expected with her jobs. Also, Eucharistic Ministers could be taught to help the Sacristans, by knowing where hosts and purificators are kept
- **NCYC** is being held in Indianapolis, November 21st through 24th. 18 youth from our Parish will be attending, along with 5 adults. Father Tito will attend for the whole weekend.

PPC Reports:

- **Website** is up and running, with many positive comments about it received. Ministry training for adding pages and how to keep them current still needs to happen. Michael can meet with Andrea or Maureen to post PPC minutes.
- **Divorce Ministry** (an 8 week program developed by the Archdiocese) was initiated at St. Athanasius but has not gotten off the ground. They did a needs assessment 3 years ago and 16 people expressed an interest, but no one came to the first meeting held recently. Perhaps this should be developed within our cluster of parishes. Sheila will ask Fr. Kevin if this would be a good item for Evanston parishes to do together.
- **Single Parishioners** looking to join a group at St. Nick's should be led to the Young Adult group, led by Sam.
- **Interfaith Action of Evanston** will hold its Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Nicholas on Nov. 27, 2019. This is the first time in many years that the Service is being held at St. Nick's.
- **Equality for Women in the Church** 64 people attended the event held after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in which three women gave reflections

on various Bible readings. The group meets monthly on Wednesday afternoons, about 28 people attend. Father Tito gives reports to the Deanery about this group.

- **Archdiocesan Parish Council** – Cynthia reported that her Arch Life group of the APC is waiting to meet again, once guidelines are given for their work.
- **Archdiocesan Women’s Committee:** Sheila reported that this group will focus on the topic “Why are women leaving the Church”
- **Welcoming:** The PPC needs to discuss next steps.
- **Renew My Church:** our start date is July 1, 2021. The process will begin with 5 representatives from each parish in our cluster meeting over a period of six months to talk and share. As a Parish, we are vital and paying our bills, and we will need to face many questions about our future.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm