

St. Nicholas Parish Pastoral Council
January 28, 2020
Agenda

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

Absent: Arturo Medina,
Meeting began at 7:09 p.m..

Opening Prayer: All said the prayer for "Renew My Church"

Approval of November 19, 2019 Minutes: Nora made a motion to accept the adjusted minutes, Yvonne seconded and they were accepted unanimously.

Parish Update – Father Tito

- **Winter Parish Party:** The committee is in full gear. A second Coffee Cake Sunday will occur on Feb. 2nd after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Aproximately 200 tickets have been sold.
- **Paddle Raise –** Work has begun on bathrooms in Oldershaw Hall, with funds from last year's Paddle Raise. This year's Paddle Raise is for a new commercial dishwasher in Oldershaw Hall. It will allow us to use real dishes and is in tandem with our Green Team initiatives. The cost will be \$20,000 to \$25,000. We will buy glasses (or maybe heavy-duty plastic) and mugs, though a suggestion was made that mugs could be donated from parishioners. At the WPP, perhaps photos in the slide show could show progress on last year's initiative.
- **Catholic Schools Week –** The Opening Mass at St. Nicks was well attended. Five students from Pope John XXIII School were baptized at St. Nick's on Jan. 26th.
- **Liturgy Meeting – Jan. 14th.** It was a good meeting. To avoid confusion with bilingual Masses, for 2020, all first readings will be in Spanish, all second readings will be in English. There was discussion about the challenge of lector scheduling for the English Masses. It is a very hard job. Sheila and Cynthia have offered to help with lector coordination and training. Also, Eucharistic Ministers for English Masses training may again be scheduled. Organization for all the Liturgy Ministries – lectors, announcements, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, sacristans – need better coordination.

- **Renew My Church** – Father Tito will communicate with the parish that our date is 2021, to begin the process. We should prepare now as a parish. We will plan to do Listening Sessions, to invite conversation from parishioners, perhaps plan several before next year. In January 2021, 5 people from each of the four parishes (St. Nick’s, St. Mary’s, St. Athanasius, St. Joan of Arc) and Sheil Catholic Center will meet to begin the discussion process. Each parish should know their gifts. Parishioners should be encouraged to feel that we own part of the decision making process.

PPC Reports

- **Website:** Training for the ministries is on Thursday, Jan. 30th at 5:30 p.m.. Website is basically finished.
- **Staff Responsibilities** – It is unclear to parishioners as to who does what on the staff. There should be an FAQ section on the website answering questions such as: How do I schedule a Mass intention? Who should I contact for Baptisms, sick visits, how do I reserve a room for a meeting, etc.? Look at other parish websites for examples.
- **Vision Keeper** – Dan Vicencio is our honoree. The dinner is on February 16th at the Orrington Hotel. Interfaith Action of Evanston sponsors this event.
- **What Makes Evanston a Safe Community?** Meeting at St. Nick’s on Thursday night, Jan. 30th
- **Archdiocesan Women’s Committee (AWC) Discussion Guide – this year the topic will be “What causes Catholic women to stay in or leave their Church?** Sheila reported on this, said the questionnaire will be put on our website.
- **Report on Archdiocesan Parish Council** – Cynthia had no report, as the regular meeting on January 11th was cancelled because of snow. It will take place on February 1st.
- **Equality for Women in the Church – St. Nick’s** There will be a meeting on Feb. 16th, four young women will speak.
- **Welcoming – Next Steps** Some new parishioners are registering. Should we plan another welcoming event on a Sunday? Or an evening with wine and cheese? Yvonne will check to see if we can reserve Oldershaw Hall on May 17, 2020.

- **St. Nick's Fest** Nora asked for feedback. \$48,500 was raised. Great comments from all, kudos to Sarah and Malachy Cross (who have signed on for next year) and to Nora and Megan Kennedy-Farrell for revitalizing the Friday night supper/visit from St. Nicholas.
- **United Power** Yvonne reported on many positive accomplishments in 2019 and continued initiatives planned for 2020. She will write an article for the bulletin.

Closing Prayer – led by Father Tito.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m..