

## St. John Chrysostom Parish

### Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2016 – 6:45 PM – Stevenson Center

Present: Father Ed, Liesl Wuest, Brian Larson, Marianne Duffy, Lynne Schofield, Kevin Haggerty, Chuck Zech, Mary Chollet, Debbie Traini, Susan Hackett, Neil Sheehan, Carly Tolson

Absent: Deanna Benner, Maureen Wortz

#### I. Opening Prayer

#### II. Pastor's Report

- Convent Update
  - i. Father Ed shared that a structural report from the engineers will be available in the near future. Once this document is secured, the project can go out to bid.
  - ii. While the intentions for the convent have been to renovate the current building, costs for a full demolition and rebuild are also being secured. This is important so that all parishioners fully understand the cost differences in these two different approaches.
  - iii. Father Ed also shared that a renovation vs. a rebuild has significant implications for zoning. A renovation allows St. Johns to be grandfathered in to earlier laws whereas a rebuild would require us to adhere to stricter laws around green space and other issues.
  - iv. Father Ed shared that the Archdiocese used to help fund projects like these but that that is no longer the case. St. Johns will need a financial plan to cover all costs related to the project.
- Ministry Sunday
  - i. Attendance was not nearly as high as we had hoped and expected.
  - ii. Many of the ministry tables did not have a ministry leader. Some PREP classes attended, but not all.
  - iii. PPC attendance was not as high as Father Ed had hoped and expected. He shared his disappointment, emphasizing that it is important that we lead by example.

#### III. Finance Report

- The Parish has a \$52K surplus that will go to the reserve fund.
- The increased offering project has been successful. Collections have increased 14% month to month this past year.
- Half of current givers increased their offerings, with the average increase at \$6.64
- A small fraction of non-givers, 4%, responded to the increased offering campaign.
- The Parish has 241 online givers and these individuals account for 1/3 of all giving.
- There are 2,000 registered families. 700 families participate in giving in some way.

#### IV. Ministries Report

- **Ministry Lunch:** Leaders gathered together for a lunch prior to Welcoming Sunday. As always, it is wonderful that the leaders have an opportunity to share a bit about their ministry, including any needs they may have. Overall, it is just really good to have these individuals in a room socializing and strengthening their relationships.

- **Welcome Sunday:** Did not have the attendance that we had hoped and expected. It was disappointing that so many ministry leaders failed to attend or to secure a member of the ministry to attend in his/her place. Out of 49 ministries, 32 did have sign ups from the meeting with the two most popular being service ministries: (1) Aid for Friends and (2) Habitat for Humanity. As we think about how to engage individuals in the Parish, it does seem like the service ministries are an area to continue focusing on.
- **Speaker Series:** Mary shared that all three presentations were well attended. The first session was about drug addiction; the second about annulments; and the third about family challenges. Many attendees were from both inside and outside of the parish. Communication about the sessions was done through e-blasts, advertisements in local papers and church bulletins.
- **Youth Group:** Still looking for a Youth Leaders. The Youth Group does continue to meet and is active with City Team and other volunteer activities.
- **Youth Choir:** Marc Dulberg has started the choir and has about 10 youth participating.
- **Advent Festival/Fair Trade Fair:** On Nov 26-27 there will be a puppet show, crafts, food, the St. Nicholas tags and scouts will be selling wreaths.
- **PREP-** 395 students and 10 children participating in the adaptive program.
- **Pre-K:** 55 children are participating in the Pre-K program during the 9:30 Mass.

V. **Brainstorming Session for 2016-2017:** Fr. Ed asked us to reflect on any issues or concerns that we feel the parish (and we as council) should address this year. Following are the ideas that were shared:

- Improve Communication with ministry leaders through the creation of an online bulletin board
- Healing Mass—may want to consider having some sort of post election healing Mass.
- More Family Centered Activities: Events like the Advent festival provide opportunities for parents and children to participate together. Volunteer activities for youth such as the Hope Café and Habitat for Humanity.
- Activity-based faith learning in PREP: Chuck shared that it used to be that PREP included parents as part of classes on a regular basis (once every several weeks).
- Speaker Series—continue the speaking events on other important topics
- Interfaith sponsored events.

VI. New Business for Next meeting

- Continue the brainstorming session

**Next Meeting: 6:45 p.m. Nov 8<sup>th</sup>**

Minutes: Marianne

Opening Prayer: Liesl

Closing Prayer: Lynne