

NATIVITY PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday – May 28, 2013
6:30 P.M. – Nazareth Room

At 6:34 p.m., Melissa Mehlisch led the Council in Evening Prayer.

At 6:51 p.m., Chairman Joe Miranowski called the meeting to order pursuant to notice.

Council Members Present:

Fr. Kevin Boucher, Fr. Chris Markman, Duane Koble, Laura Alderman, Lydia Carlson, Dale Craft, Tom Hanson, Eric Krueger, Brenda Lang, Melissa Mehlisch, Joe Miranowski, Anne Moynihan, Wendy Paulson, Ryan Roshau, Don Schott, Terry Thorp

Council Members Absent: Corporate Treasurer Patrick Kautzman and Corporate Secretary Anne Stoll

Minutes from the 04/23/2013 Parish Council meeting were provided prior to the meeting and accepted by unanimous consensus.

OLD BUSINESS

Nativity Anew II Update – Fr. Kevin reported that they are officially in the new space; the front door is open; the old sidewalk will be torn out and redone and grass will be reseeded. The Courtyard had an unknown problem with water leakage in one of the tunnels, which has been repaired. Landscaping the courtyard is the next project. The staff has been brainstorming a date and what to do for the Open House Dedication once the courtyard is done. The staff is open to ideas from the council.

Father noted there is an issue with the concrete settling about 3” near the side door that will need to be addressed. There have also been issues with the new electronic locking system that will need to be rekeyed.

Finalize the Pastoral Council’s “5K Marathon Fun-Raiser”

Chairman Joe Miranowski reported we had a good turnout with 9 of our 18 pastoral council members participating in the marathon, including other parishioners. Fr. Kevin listed all those who had signed up through the Nativity website and a drawing was held for refund of the person’s registration fee. Riley Stoll’s name was picked to receive the refund. Fr. will announce the final tally as soon as all funds are collected from the fun-raiser.

Other Old Business – None

NEW BUSINESS

Nativity’s 5-Year Long Range Plan Update

Fr. Kevin reminded the liaisons to bring the 5-Year Long Range Plan forward to their respective council, commission or committee for evaluation and input as discussed at last month’s meeting. Please refer to the council’s April Minutes regarding what needs to be done. The goal would be to have the new 5-Year Long Range Plan written by the end of the 2013 year based on the input from each council, commission and committee.

Formation Discussion: “Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen Gentium – Ch 5 & 6

Fr. Chris briefly outlined the topic of Chapters 5 & 6.

Chapter 5 addressed the universal call to holiness in the church. The pinnacle of the chapter is how love of God and love of neighbor is holiness itself. If we are dying and giving of our life as Christ did, then we too will continue to grow in holiness ourselves. The Lord is the model of holiness. How he lived out

the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience – which are more intense ways of growing in holiness as you are forming your life more completely in Christ. They are a renunciation of the things of this world. Through them we become other Christs in this life in a deeper way.

Chapter 6 spoke about the religious life where a person makes a vow or commitment to living out chastity, poverty and obedience; and how those who have taken this vow are helping us all to prepare ourselves for the next life. The religious are bound in total dedication & service to God to build up his kingdom on earth as we prepare for the next life. Remember that the religious can be the ordained clergy or the laity. The hierarchy is in place to regulate and govern the various communities to help keep the church and various groups united as the church. Remember, we all have the universal call to holiness. Discussion followed.

Other New Business - None

Pastor's Comments

Fr. Kevin noted a correction to his report that a new Shanley Principal was hired, not a superintendent. Ed Mitchell had taken the Development Director position for the Catholic schools prior to being hired as the Shanley principal.

JPII has several positions to fill, many due to retirement.

No formal decision yet regarding kindergarten in West Fargo.

Still in conversation regarding the possibility of selling a portion of the Holy Cross Cemetery to the VA for a Veteran's Cemetery. The goal is to open a National Cemetery in every state in the Union and are considering several communities in the Red River Valley. We have 80 acres and developing 20, with 40 for eventual sale.

Parochial Vicar's Comments

Fr. Chris highlighted the following from his report:

- 55 children were confirmed and received their first Eucharist.
- No one attended the "Who Knew with Fr. Chris" on May 16. Unsure if he will continue this next year.
- Participated in the Men's Christ Renews His Parish retreat and is now in formation with the team.
- Completed the 5K marathon run in 32 min 56 seconds and raised approximately \$1,700.

Finance Council - No report.

Director of Administration's Report

Duane Koble highlighted the following from his report:

- As reported at each meeting, a campus this size requires a lot of day-to-day maintenance.
- The main sewer line in the center of the 1980 building needed cleaned as it was backing up.
- Will see a lot of neighborhood street repair this summer, which will affect special assessments for Nativity in the future. The street repair will be completed when school starts in the fall. Could take a maximum of four months to complete the project if any weather delays.
- The fire inspection of the church building with a few minor infractions.
- The Ministry Fair was the staff's idea to encourage parishioners to become involved and to bring more awareness to the parish regarding the areas of greater need. There will be a notebook in the gathering space for people to refer to and sign up throughout the year. Will put up the display for two weeks in the fall too.
- Finances – summer has arrived resulting in decreased attendance and offertory which will result in the need to dip into reserves to meet monthly expenses.

Committee & Commission Reports

Youth Ministry & Young Adult Ministry

No formal report from WOW or LinC since they wrapped up their year. They did hold a successful dance the last day.

Buildings & Grounds Committee – Liaison Wendy Paulson reported that Bonnie Faller and she had cleared out the North side for landscaping and are waiting to plant flowers on June 3rd. Many plants had aged, been damaged by drought or trampled when windows were put in during the building project. Some of the sprinkler heads and sprinkler line are in need of repair. One of the two benches was destroyed during sidewalk snow removal this past winter. The Courtyard is a new area that needs landscaping. Fr. Kevin asked that the Buildings & Grounds Committee submit ideas for the courtyard area and plans regarding how to pay for it.

Wendy Paulson will chair this committee and will form the committee. Ryan Roshau volunteered to help with this task. The plan is to complete landscaping by the end of June.

Deanery Representative – Fr. Kevin had nothing to report at this time.

Health Advisory Commission – Terry Thorp reported that the commission requested the Pastoral Council's direction on the procedures when someone falls ill during Mass and who should provide assistance, as not all the ushers are comfortable with what should be done. Fr. Kevin said to locate a Sacristan for assistance, not the ushers. Was noted though, that the new sacristans may not all be trained in this area. Keep in mind that the odds are that someone with a medical background would be in attendance at Mass too.

The question was raised if the ushers could secure some type of instruction so they would know who the sacristans are.

Secondly, Terry reported that the commission currently has three vacancies and are looking to fill these by the September 9th meeting.

Third, the Commission questioned if hosting a bingo game at the Fall Festival would be an acceptable fun-raiser. They did approach the Fall Festival Committee with this idea. Recommendation was made to first check into the need for a gaming license and the expense to hold this type of fun-raiser. The gaming license must go through the parish, which can impact future Fall Festivals and would compete with the raffle. Also, there is a lot of bookkeeping involved. May consider securing items for a "Table of Chance", which has been done in the past at the Fall Festival, but would also need to be included in the gaming license. Terry will take this discussion back to the commission.

JPII Council – JPII Liaison Laura Alderman reported that JPII had another successful auction.

Liturgical Commission – Liaison Anne Moynihan reported that the commission had outlined their goals for the 5-Year Long Range Plan. Highlight is on reverence during the liturgies for all aspects of the ministries during Mass. Also plan to explore why those in various ministries chose that ministry and understanding this call to serve the Lord. Also, it is usually the same people serving at many of the Masses and considering how to promote new participation.

Continue the viewing of the Catholicism series.

Was noted that the Liturgical Commission is now holding dinner meetings each month.

Also discussed the difficulty for the person coordinating Eucharistic Ministers for each Mass because people come to Mass so close to the starting time. Discussion was held about possibly going back to a scheduled list of Eucharistic Ministers; but with the need for 12 Eucharistic Ministers for each Mass, it was too difficult to plan accordingly. There are over 300 commissioned Extraordinary Ministers but only 180 assist on a regular basis. The plan is to clean up this list. When people are routed through the front door, it may be easier to fill the Eucharistic Minister positions at each Mass. There is a need to emphasize

that this ministry is part of serving the Lord. Was noted that another parish does online scheduling and people sign up themselves. This might be an option worthwhile testing. Concern was brought up that with only one training for Eucharistic Ministers, some people may not be stepping forward in this ministry if they miss the one training. Recommendation was made to connect the person with the Coordinator or Melissa to train those people who are ready to volunteer and missed the training.

Parish Faith Life Commission – Liaison Dale Craft had no report. He did mention that the members were provided with a copy of the 5-Year Plan and will work on this at their August meeting.

Social Justice Commission – Liaison Don Schott reported that Fair Trade coffee sales will not be held during the summer.

Project community connect had 124 people stop by our table for rosaries and prayer cards.

Cathy Schwinden noted the needs for jail ministry and that they are considering the type of rosaries that might be acceptable. Potentially have representation at the jail for once a month. The specific need is for priests for sacramental care.

The Salvation Army serves a meal once a week on Saturday mornings. Nativity is scheduled for June 22, July 27 and August 24. Are in need of volunteers to help set up tables around 10:00 a.m., serve the meal and clean up. Possibly some parish groups may take on this ministry. Nativity also assists at Churches United on the 4th Saturday of the month. There have only been a handful of people assisting with this ministry. This summer's RCIA group will be doing service projects and this may be an option to share with Chris for this program. Anyone interested in helping with any of the projects noted, please speak with Cathy Schwinden.

“Dancing with the Nativity Stars” is the commission's fundraiser. Practices will be held this summer.

Katie Bruckbauer and Andrea will be choreographers.

Discussed the Long Range Plan.

Will meet again the first Tuesday of each month, but meet only once during the summer.

Announcements

Chairman Joe Miranowski made the following announcement:

- The next scheduled Pastoral Council meeting is the Summer Social on Tuesday- June 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Wendy Paulson's home at 3114 36th Ave South, Fargo, which is located near the Fleet Farm area.
- Brenda will email a signup for the Potluck Social.
- Lydia Carlson will continue as the Youth Representative for the next pastoral council year.

There being no further business, Joe closed the meeting with Evening Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lang

Recording Secretary