

# St Patrick's Catholic Church

Pastoral Council Meeting  
September 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.  
Faith Formation Building

**Call Meeting to Order with Prayer 7:05 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Amy Ausdemore, Jean Hofmaster, Jenny Hall, Katie Ausdemore, Liz Lyons, Bernie Koch, RaeShelle Jensen, Joanne Grote. Matt Brummett joined at 7:35 p.m.

**Members Absent:** Fr. Danso, Scott Konz, Scott Brooks

**Add items to agenda or approve agenda as written**

## **Correspondence:**

1. **Curriculum Subcommittee Update:** Jean did not meet with John Gaffney. / Bernie Amy met with John Gaffney. Amy discussed that we need to figure out what publisher our parish wants, possibly by talking with our experienced RE teachers to make decisions. High school curriculum will likely be Matthew Kelly. John mentioned that we are maybe having too many high school classes; kids may be getting burned out and quitting (juniors and seniors), freshman mandatory and sophomores should be meeting for confirmation each week. Bernie commented that Jeff & Mindy Schechinger would like to get involved and do some fun activities. John mentioned Q&A sessions and discussion was held on that. Those who met with John stated he suggested we had a curriculum picked out for next year by January; the new curriculum would not be required for this year, but those teaching religious ed classes could ease into it if they choose to. If we need to have a quick meeting in December to decide on a curriculum we can, or just send an email as the subcommittee will choose which curriculum will be taught next year. Matthew Kelly/Decision Point for confirmation and high school. The videos that go along with this program are in the religious ed building and teachers would need to coordinate lessons being taught between confirmation kids and high school classes.
2. **Religious Education Update:**
  - a. Dinner to be held on Sunday with John Gaffney 6-8 p.m.
  - b. Amy to email religious ed instructors.
  - c. Amy was able to secure all religious ed instructors for each grade. Fr Danso wants to make sure the instructors are teaching the church's version of our faith and that the instructors are not teaching their own personal version of their faith.
  - d. Bernie has tickets to go see the new bishop's ordination and John Gaffney has more tickets if anyone is interested – Friday, 09/27/2019 at St Francis in Des Moines.
  - e. Discussion held on Tom Green "Fear of Missing Out."  
Psalm 23 – have different nights of prayer.  
Anxiety with kids and their phones and having to be plugged in all the time.

## **Old Business:**

### **1. Rosary Garden Update:**

- a. Tim Spiker is approximately \$4000 short as landscaping has cost a bit more than expected.
- b. Matt O'Neill, Steve O'Neill, John Narmi, and Roger Hall will get the Mary statue, but it will be a few months

- c. Pea gravel to go in this week; stones next week.
- d. More fundraising discussed, nothing finalized.
- 2. **Projector/screen and hall sound system update:**
  - a. Bonsall's bill at \$22,412; which is a little under budget of \$24,613 with everything.
  - b. Projector came in today; screen not in yet.
  - c. Bonsall's will make bid for hall.
  - d. Father's mic and ambo need to be dropped.
  - e. Kept the speakers from the church and those will try to be incorporated in the hall.

**New Business:**

**1. Guest Speaker:**

- a. RaeShelle mentioned that all guest speakers must be approved through our diocese to make sure they have a certificate of good standing. Guidelines passed out from the Diocesan Vision Loop; this would include more big picture guest speakers for our whole parish.
- b. For Faith Formation, Mark and Geri often have guest speakers who volunteer their time. It was felt these would not have to be approved through the Diocese.
- 2. **"26 Key Quotes..." article from Mark and Geri Bjorling:** Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment was passed out. We need to start thinking more about our environment.
- 3. **Timeline for 2019-2020:** Katie put a timeline together with John Gaffney's help. Need to look at how to inform the parish of making the transition. The timeline is by month, timeline attachment distributed to Pastor Council members.
- 4. **Mission Vision Statement:**
  - a. Develop: Katie look online at other parish mission/vision statements and put one together with the help of John Gaffney. See handout. Take the month to absorb and be prepared to decide on our vision statement next month.
  - b. Mission should be our driving force.
  - c. How do we want it to look 5 years down the road?
  - d. **Get Parishioner Feedback:** Get out to parishioners and get feedback. Discussed putting the mission/vision statement on Facebook and putting papers in the pews and letting people view it for a couple weeks.
- 5. **Find out why people aren't coming/don't participate:** Develop plan to find out why parishioners are not coming to church or why they are not participating in faith formation.
  - a. Anonymous contribution
  - b. Mail a questionnaire
  - c. Discussed waiting until faith formation starts
  - d. Survey Monkey or Google Form – Offer different forms for the survey to get feedback via computer forms (younger generation) or pew papers (older generation).
  - e. Jenny Hall to check with Fr Mark on his survey at St Gerald's as this problem is universal.
    - i. We need to be grateful for what IS happening in our parish.
    - ii. Need to get more young people involved.
    - iii. Start out positive
    - iv. Be prepared for people to voice their opinion
  - f. October Meeting be prepared to reconvene on this topic and come with questions for survey.
- 6. **Job Description Discussion for Faith Formation Coordinator:**

- a. Father Danso will get the final decision on the job description.
- b. John Gaffney gave Katie a sample job description; handout given out & Katie marked changes that she would like to see.
  - i. Look over and bring ideas to October meeting.
  - ii. Position responsibility – not day to day, but in the big picture.
  - iii. Not a lot of changes discussed, except under position specific requirements.

**7. Advent Project Discussion:**

- a. Past projects were discussed – BACA, MOHM'S Place, Gabriel's Corner.
- b. New ideas included the local food pantry, toy drive, mitten/glove drive, check with Neola City Hall to see if people needed help with electric bills, the elderly from our parish who are in assisted living, caring tree.
- c. Plan to make decision at October meeting; needs to be finalized by October meeting for bulletin purposes.
- d. Advent starts Sunday, December 1st this year.

**Adjournment at 8:25 p.m.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Motion:** Jenny Hall.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion:** Amy Ausdemore.

**Next Meeting:** Discussion held, and meeting date was changed to **Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.**