

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on November 17, 2014

Members of the Parish Council and Pastoral Team met at the Sacred Heart Parish Center at 7:00PM

Absent members – Kimberly Spence

I. **Opening Prayer** offered by Michelle Kriss

II. **Reviewed and approved minutes** from the October meeting.

III. **Pastor's report:**

a. **Two questions about Lent** you are invited to ask a parishioner(s) you do not know:

(1) ***What can Sacred Heart Parish provide to enhance or strengthen your spiritual journey during the Lenten Season?***

(2) ***What one thing can we encourage one another to do as a "corporate parish community penance" to enter more deeply into the Lenten Season?***

The hope is to include more folks and reach out more to parish members that are not involved as much as they could be. Fr. Tom asked the Pastoral Council to think on this and speak with one person they do not know (outside their circle of friends) to discuss possible ideas at the next Pastoral Council meeting in February.

c. We will move ahead with a Lenten small-faith sharing 6 week program this coming Lent 2015. We will use the material from the Diocese of Victoria, Texas. Michelle Kriss will order the materials. Offer program for those that wish to do it, everyone agrees that we should move ahead and try this.

d. Basilica will not be closed January 4, 2015. ***We will move our Epiphany Mass back to the Basilica at 11:30 AM on January 4.*** We will have the 4 PM Saturday Vigil on January 3 and the 6:30 AM Sunday morning Masses in the crypt. However, the 9:30 AM Mass will be cancelled to get as many as possible to come to the Basilica Mass at 11:30 AM.

e. Talked with Cindy Black from the Diocese about new ARISE small faith sharing groups program--- ***Why Catholic?*** ---- starts in the Fall of 2015, There will be an informational session on the new Arise program - --- Why Catholic---- January 14, 2015 (Wednesday) at 1 PM and 6 PM, Little Flower Parish Center. This allows us to do use the Lenten Sunday Scripture Readings program from Victoria, Texas in Lent, 2015.

f. **ARISE** groups' Mass and Potluck Supper on December 8 (Immaculate Conception) at 6 PM. We need to know who is coming and if folks can help with making sure food is set out. Parish will provide chicken and sausage. Mass and potluck on December will provide a venue to speak about the 2015 Lenten program and what is coming in the fall of 2015.

IV. **Paul Thornton's** report on the plans for the Epiphany Brunch

Poster and tickets done. Article ready for bulletin on November 30th. ***Important to keep dining tables further apart to give people more space to move around during the event. Also, be sure there are "family tables"***

V. Around the Table reports from various Council members:

Michelle Kriss – three more religious education classes before Christmas, program and pageant just before Christmas. December 14th at parish center around 10am. Guests are welcome.

Diane Walling– two weeks ago had new luncheon format for seniors, welcome for Fr. Brad. Next luncheon is in April. Mass of Remembrance well attended, 25 people showed up. Blood pressure screenings will be done when Diane is in town.

John McNarney ---- Praise for Fr. Brad at luncheon.

Pat Cahill - Ticket sales going well this football season. There are six home games and volunteers have been a big help. New pricing of tickets (3 for \$5, 7 for \$10) has made a big difference, especially “15 for \$20” and a chance to win a ND football. We are ahead of where we were in previous years. **“Ticket Rap”** coming for the Louisville game!

Tom Nowak – Social Justice met last Thursday; Dismas House met and had dinner last Wednesday. December dinner, gifts are usually given to the guests. Our Lady of the Road breakfast coming up this Friday, November 21. Northeast Neighborhood food pantry is doing well. Adopt a family for Christmas, 16 families taken, 14 left at the moment.

Fr. Tom – Monday Feb 9th is next Pastoral Council meeting; Seder Meal Wednesday, March 25th. **Paul Eddy, Jack O'Brien, and Tom Nowak will be the 3 Kings at Epiphany Mass.** Need to show up at 11:10 AM in the Basilica sacristy January 4 to get dressed. Also, Bishops Appeal 2014 is going very well, 266 responses, over goal at the moment. Money goes towards school tuition.

Nan Tulchinsky – Will get reader(s) and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion for December 8 Mass. Nan’s Arise group, talked about suggestions to make parish more welcoming. Came up with the following suggestions:

Encourage existing members to sit with new members and to introduce themselves

Have a table with information about our groups and activities

Ask visitors at mass to introduce themselves

Reinstate the annual “new parish families” luncheon

We should do whatever needs to be done to make people feel welcome; we are a very genuine and sincere parish.

VI. Close the meeting with a prayer offered by Annie Borjas

Thank you to Paul and Jane for the "midway thru the meeting" snack.

Opening prayer for our February 9, 2015 meeting will be by Tom Nowak.

Closing prayer for our February 9, 2015 meeting will be offered by Fr Brad Metz.

Snacks for our February meeting to be provided by Michelle Kriss.