PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING: APRIL 18, 2016

Absent: Jack O’Brien, Anne Cashore, John McNarney, Jane Mulligan, Anne Coglianese, Kim Spence

Opening Prayer: Michelle Kriss

III. **Holy Cross Parishes’ Pilgrimage To A “Holy Door”** during this extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.
   - 5 Holy Cross Parishes in South Bend to explore coming together for a Jubilee Year of Mercy event at one of the Diocesan Cathedrals or at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at ND.
   - Possible Mass/Holy Hour/Confessions?
   - Sometime is late summer or early fall
   - Pastoral Council thought it would be a good idea for SHP to pursue Fr. Tom to attend a Planning meeting.

IV. **175th Anniversary of SHP in 2017**
   - Use current events (e.g., Epiphany Breakfast, Sacred Heart Feastday celebration in 2017) to highlight the Anniversary throughout the year?
   - Send out census information to parishioners in order to update parish census data?
   - Form a Committee of 2 Council members and 3 other parishioners to explore options.

V. **JJ Wright Leaving For Rome**
   - JJ (and his family) will complete his PH. D. studies at the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome for 2016 – 2017.
   - Last day: May 15 – Pentecost
   - Appropriate “Thank You” and gift planned for the 11 AM Mass (Nan and Fr. Tom)

VI. **How to achieve a balance between community and prayerful preparation before Mass?**
   - Lack of a “greeting space” leads to folks “socializing” before/after Mass.
   - Mass is not “private prayer time” but “community” prayer time.
   - Council desires to avoid extremes: excessive “socializing” and “absolute silence”
   - Perhaps a musical prelude before Mass and a 60 second pause after the introduction is read to gather our thoughts for the celebration?
   - Perhaps full Council and think about this proposal and discuss at the May meeting.

VII. **Solemnity of the Sacred Heart Parish Celebration Friday, June 3, 2016.**
   - Mass (6 PM) followed by Pizza/Salad/Dessert Potluck at the Parish Center
   - Parish to supply pizza and drinks
   - Parishioners invited to bring salads and desserts.
   - Nan and Paul Eddy to coordinate food; Fr. Tom to coordinate Mass.
VIII. ‘Round the Table:
- **Michelle Kriss** – 1st Communion Retreat April 23; Last REP class day April 24;
- 1st Communion Sunday May 1 (11 AM Mass); May Crowning 11 AM Mass May 8
- Vacation Bible School July 11 – 15; Amanda Niedosik to help with VBS
- Why Catholic for 2015-2016 went very well; 2016-2017 topic: FAITH/BELIEVE

- **Tom Nowak** – Thursday, May 5, National Day of Prayer Breakfast at the Century Center. Joan Loranger and Father Tom, as well as Tom and Marlene Nowak attending.
- St. Vincent de Paul Legacy Dinner May 11 at Hilton Garden Inn. All seats filled at the SHP table.
- Newly arrived refugee families are getting settled; once refugee gets his license, they will have a car to use.

- **Diane Walling** – Blood pressure screening in May and then stops for the summer.
- Why Catholic potluck on April 14 well attended and everybody enjoyed themselves.

IX. **Closing Prayer: Diane Beach-Walling**

Last Pastoral Council meeting of the 2015 – 2016 term: Monday, May 23, 7 PM

**Agenda Items:**
- Reach consensus on balance between community and prayerful preparation before Mass
- Finalize Sacred Heart Celebration needs on June 3
- Finalize plans for the Annual Parish Mass and Picnic Sunday, August 14?
- Date for Council August Planning session and Council Members/Spouses Cookout in August?