

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, January 4, 2023

Welcome and Open Forum: Terry announced the agenda for the meeting:

The “Big Quiet” discussion continued.
Bylaws presentation and vote.

There were no other announcements by PPC members.

Opening Prayer: The opening prayer was a reflection on the Gospel for Sunday, January 8, 2023 (Matthew 2:1-12). Terry read the Gospel and led the discussion. Several PPC members contributed to the faith sharing.

Agenda:

The “Big Quiet”: The discussion was divided into two parts: (1) Review of the first 15 pastoral letters and (2) Roll-out of the “Big Quiet.”

- (1) Review of the letters: PPC members reflected on their personal reactions to the letters, evolution of the letters since the initial drafts, and then on specific things in certain letters that either resonated with them or caused a question or concern. Following a lengthy discussion on the 15 letters and Fr. John’s reactions or explanations relating to each of the questions/concerns by PPC members, the consensus was the PPC was pleased with and impressed by the pastoral letters. Terry noted each of the editorial changes brought up in the discussion and will pass them on to Fr. John.

Questions and suggestions concerning the roll-out of the “Big Quiet” repeatedly came up during the review of the letters. These questions/suggestions included: overall strategy; timing; how to respond to the array of readers (age, gender, state of life, etc.); how to maintain the overall context of the letters (described in letters 1-7) when someone will read one of the later letters in isolation; how and where readers access the collection of letters; whether to have focus groups, and training for SJCC leadership who may respond to the letters

- (2) Roll-out: Fr. John is anxious to roll this program out, but understands that we need to do it right, which takes time to make sure we have thought it through thoroughly. He also acknowledged that SJCC is going to need a lot of back-up (i.e., help with the roll-out issues brought up by PPC members). Fr. John said that Pedro suggested having a “group of leaders” in the church meet on Thursday evenings to prepare for the roll-out. The matter of how many groups and who they comprise triggered further discussion and various suggestions -- all without resolution.

Fr. John closed the discussion by asking each member of the PPC to email him directly with his/her thoughts on:

Are we going to create the group(s)?

What should be the nature (purpose) of the group(s)?

When should they start?

Bylaws presentation and vote: A copy of the proposed bylaws, updated based on PPC input at the November 9, 2022 meeting, was emailed to PPC members on January 3, 2023. Rachel went over the proposed changes to the bylaws, including the roles of Youth and Young Adult Representative, Pastor-appointed PPC members and the intention to add two newly discerned members to the council each year.

Bob moved that the PPC approve the proposed bylaws as amended. Margaret seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0, with 1 abstention.

Round Table Discussion:

Chris announced that a discussion group on *The Catechism in a Year* with Fr. Mike Schmitz is starting Monday, January 9, at 7:00pm in Classroom 11.

Tony announced two big parish events coming up in 2023: Friday Fish Fries during Lent (SJCC may also hold a Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner on February 21) and a Festival of St. Joseph the Worker on May 6 with several related events including a Consecration to St. Joseph and a dinner dance. The Mission Council is hoping this will become the largest of the SJCC celebrations.

Terry asked about the SJCC annual report. Rachel will reach out to Karen and Lauren about the annual report. Also, Terry announced that the Finance Commission will be attending the March 1, 2023 PPC meeting to provide an update on the budget.

Pastor's Report:

Fr. John announced that the stained glass windows for the church will arrive on February 22, 2023 (Ash Wednesday). He also described changes in job assignments in the parish office.

Closing Prayer:

Fr. John led the closing prayer.

Attendance:

PPC Members: Fr. John Worgul, Terry Morse, Rachel Wandishin, Bob Geldmacher, Jane Miller, Margaret Patrick, Joselle Ruddle, Mark Steinbrunner, Ernie Tucker

Corporators: Gwen Lilly, Chris Patrick

Mission Council: Tony Gioio