

SJCC Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes - October 3, 2018

The meeting opened and closed with prayer, led by Terry Morse

Message from Executive Team, read by Terry Morse: The Executive Team would like to thank everyone for all of the feedback that we have received to date, whether by email, phone conversations or one-on-one personal discussions. We understand the depth of feeling that has been conveyed through this feedback and we want everyone to know that we take all of the thoughts and ideas expressed to us very seriously. The Executive Team is committed to making this year of the Parish Pastoral Council the very best it can be, and your feedback will assist us in that goal. We ask for patience, cooperation, civil demeanor and prayerful consideration for the entire council as we work toward achieving our mission.

Recap of Action Items from September:

- Divine Renovation Books were distributed to Parish Council
- No report was produced in regards to the Worship Space. Matt Anthony from the Archdiocese produced a report. Four areas to be covered are the Narthex, paint color, harmonization of furnishings, and embellishment of workspace
- Follow up on the anonymous website regarding church sex abuse scandal: 34 responses were received, and 1 requested meeting took place. It was promoted for 2 weeks, and anger was the common theme.

Divine Renovation Value 1: Giving Value to the Weekend Discussion, lead by Terry Morse

The Author argues that 80% of parishioners attend mass, but we spend 80% of our time on smaller groups within the parish. We should be spending the bulk of our time reaching the most people.

What we are doing well: What are we currently doing to give priority to the weekend includes having 5 appropriate mass times, a paid pastoral associate for liturgy, children's liturgy, choir, family mass, name tag Sunday, greeters, ask about visitors before mass, say hello to our neighbor, coffee and donuts

What we can do to improve mass: Provide insight during mass to explain why certain rituals are done.

Bob Bastress noted that the implementation is planning on implementing several of the suggestions. PPC decided to see where the implementation of the action steps leads the parish.

Divine Renovation Value 2: What are the entry points of the parish and how well are they enabling the public to have a spiritual encounter with Christ

Entry points that are successful include talks, religious ed, and retreats. Entry points that need work include the parish website and follow up with new parishioners. PPC goal is to generate goals and objectives and give the work to the hospitality committee to complete. The committee will then come back to the PPC with recommendations. Dave Henson from the hospitality committee noted that they have 4 or 5 people on the committee who are laying the foundation for the direction the church should go. They are going to a number of different churches to see what they do well and what they do not do well. Father Neville commented that because of the hard work of the hospitality committee, the initial parish plan did not focus on this aspect, but it now needs to.

Pastor's Report: The Jubilee Capital Campaign will focus on Remember, Celebrate, Dream, with 25% of the funds raised going to renovating the Sykesville Church, 30% will go towards renovating the current church and 45% will go towards funding youth ministry. In an effort to minimize a drop in the weekly offertory, Father Neville will be hosting two receptions with the hope of raising the bulk of the \$500,000 goal from a smaller group of parishioners. They will then extend the campaign to the remainder of the parish in November. The Finance Commission will contribute \$250,000 if the \$500,000 is raised, for a total of \$750,000.

Attendance: Fr. Neville O'Donohue, S.M., Christy Sommerville, Terry Morse, Laura Bird, Matt Antonishak, Frank Galli, Carole Gauthier, Catherine Milstead, Jim Parker, Bill Jones, Sharon Borcharding, John Pavlick, Sue Wilson, Nick Pinto

Guests: Chris Patrick, Karen Spivey, Bruce Baumgarten, Bob and Diane Bastress, Tim Thimmesch, Dave Henson

The next PPC meeting is Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 7 PM in the Tonry Room. Parishioners are welcome to attend and bring comments or concerns during the Open Forum. Email council@saintjoseph.cc