

## 2.9.2019 Parish Advisory Council (PAC)

Present: Bill Bright, Bryant Crane, Kerri DiMonte, Collette Doyle, Kelly Eikum, Mike Francis, Peter Galek, Lisa Geneser, Ed Giles, Kathleen Gorman, Ann Gornik, Diane Harkin, Diane Januska, Heidi Kotynek, Larry Krema, MJ Martin, Kathie McReynolds, Bill Mear, Dan Montgomery, Katie Nicholson, Marc Reszel, Elizabeth Russell-Jones, Jim Strafacci, Rich Voytas, Steve Weigand, Beth White, and Dave Zich

Absent: Janet Caschetta, John Cisek, Pat DeMars, Topher Fryzel, Jenny Hounihan, Jessica Koch, John Schopp, Jen Smykowski, Terry Stadler, Bill Vollmer, and Randy White

The following items were discussed at our meeting. Members are asked to share these minutes with their council or ministry advisory group as well as with friends, neighbors and other parishioners.

1. Each consultative body and ministry advisory group shared three highlights from their electronic pre-read which are detailed below. Full pre-reads are posted to the website.

### Pastoral Ministry & Adult Formation

- Alpha is a series of small group, interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian Faith without dogma and without judgment. Each session begins with dinner followed by a short film and small group discussions. The current session runs through April. Attendance is strong. Meetings are held in the Parish Center.
- Nourish is a new monthly support group for caregivers at our parish.

### Finance Council

- Parishioners are asked to continue to support the mission of our parish through Sunday Offertory, the SJC Fest fundraiser and the Annual Catholic Appeal. The ACA enables us to reach out to parishes serving poor communities as well as support core ministries of our greater Church. Donations over our goal are returned to our parish in a rebate which has been set aside to retire our To Teach Who Christ Is Campaign responsibility. Once our TTWCI debt is fulfilled, the rebates will be set aside to make needed improvements to parish buildings and grounds. Our Annual Catholic Appeal goal is \$201,039.
- After six months in the current fiscal year, parish financials are sound/on budget.

### School Advisory Board

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were confirmed the first weekend of February. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are preparing for First Eucharist in May.
- Catholic Schools Week (CSW) celebrated our wonderful parish school. Students thanked parishioners at every Mass for supporting their education. There was also an open house for prospective students.

### Crossroads

- Parish teens participated in service activities such as Harvest Saturday and making dinners at Inspiration cate and Ronald McDonald House.
- Kairos Retreats are for high school juniors and seniors from SJC as well as our neighbor parishes, Cletus and St. Francis. In the fall, 46 teens attended the retreat. Registration is currently underway for the March retreat.
- Summer work tours are being planned for Young Neighbors in Action and Our Lady of Charity.

### Youth Catechesis

- The YC Program prepares all parish children for sacraments. 184 youth were confirmed by Bishop Manz.
- Two YC service projects were successful. Families donated cleaning supplies to Home2Home which helps families in need when they move into a new home or apartment. Over 1300 food items were donated to our neighbor parish food pantries from the "Souper" Bowl Food Collection.

### Outreach

- Currently SJC supports Kolbe House, Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation, St. Gall, Refugee Resettlement, BEDS Plus, Helping Hand and St. Agatha, In addition, our parish also supports families in need through Share Christmas and 7 area food pantries through our food collection in church. Each parish or ministry has one or more Outreach Advisory Committee reps responsible for connecting to these outreach recipients, building relationships and communicating in a mutually beneficial manner.
- The Outreach Committee would like the PAC to get the word out and encourage additional parishioners to join in sharing their gifts, talents, resources and interests, i.e., connecting those who can help with those who need help in order to expand the number of parishes and organizations served.

### Welcome

- New members are continually being welcomed into our parish. About 150 new members have joined in the last year. Similarly, the parish updates its database when parishioners move out of town, pass away, or decide to switch parishes (which is not very often).
- Elizabeth Russell-Jones is personally taking part in the current session of Alpha. She is enjoying the community she is experiencing.
- Elizabeth would like input as to how she can improve the Welcoming experience at our parish.

### Encore

- Encore is a new group at our parish for people 60 years and over and their friends. The first event was a Christmas luncheon with 120 people attending. The group enjoyed a delicious lunch, meeting old friends and making new ones, and a performance by parish school choirs.
- A survey was taken at the first luncheon which indicated that most seniors wanted more social events at the parish.
- The next event is a St. Patrick's Day luncheon on March 17 with the Trinity Irish Dancers. Tickets are on sale now. Volunteers welcome.

### Women's Club

- Fall events were well attended, especially Advent by Candlelight. The Luminaria fundraiser was also well received. Many parishioners purchased a luminaria in memory of a loved one.
- Upcoming events include: retreat March 1-2, Boutique Shopping Night in April, spring Flower Sale in May and the annual Garage Sale in June. Work is also underway for the Fashion Show next November.
- Women are welcome to come to the WC Board meeting to see what it is like and see how they can join this dynamic group of volunteers.

### Men's Club

- Trivia Night 8 was another sell out event.
- Upcoming events include the March 8 Lenten Fish Fry and June 7 Golf Outing at Flagg Creek.
- The men are looking for volunteers for the fish fry as well as men to join the MC Board.

### Word on the Street

At Large Reps and Apostles report praise, complaints, and suggestions that they have heard around the parish:

- Reps noted parishioners enjoyed the school students speaking at Sunday Mass for Catholic Schools Week, the variety of programs offered at SJC, our strong lay leadership, liked weekend presider schedule on website, and the December Fair Trade event benefitting Refugee Resettlement.
  - Negatives mentioned included: request for more special needs parking, especially in winter, disappointment in how priest misconduct handled, feel need for more information and listening sessions to help all to heal, and some had a poor perception of the purpose of the Renew My Church initiative.
2. In light of the declining number of priests able to serve in our archdiocese, the most efficient use of our priests' time, and the need for all priests to help out at neighboring parishes, the PAC spent time discussing our Mass schedules for weekends, weekdays, weddings, funerals, school Masses, holidays and holy days. Our current schedule is not user friendly, can be confusing with a variety of times, with 45's and 15's, some Masses at 9:00am and some at 9:30am, etc. The increased request for visitations in church before a funeral Mass was also discussed. The PAC also suggested additional evenings of reconciliation during Lent. Our pastor, Fr. Marc Reszel, will use the PAC input as he considers future scheduling.
  3. The PAC was asked to give input on a draft of parish policies concerning use and care of the Parish Center (including audio visual equipment and the kitchen) by parish groups, parish groups with youth, as well as groups from outside of the parish, a usage fee for groups outside of the parish, use of and security in the school building after school, advertising events on the website, in the bulletin, using yard signs, banners, selling items on campus, collecting items and/or names, use of the parish directory and school directory, and use of materials in the bulletin and on the website. The Council gave excellent input which will be incorporated in the final document. Our parish policies will be posted to the parish website and communicated with each parish organization in the next month.

4. For the spring meeting PAC members were asked to nominate someone from the current council to serve as vice chair. Beth White will move from vice chair to chairperson. The PAC was also asked to consider increasing the terms from one year to two years for both these positions to be voted on in May. Members were also asked to help discern two at-large members for election in May to serve a two year term beginning in the fall. Also the PAC will investigate an electronic sign to improve communication and new parking options for special needs parishioners.