

Pastoral Council Minutes: April 10, 2017

Members Present: Msgr. R. Morris, E. Luker, B. Langley, C. Creamer, S. Paul, M. Ustick, S. Helton, K. Bentley, G. Green, T. Goodrich

Religious Clergy, Nuns and Laity Present: J Marino, Sr. K. Beatty,

7:00 p.m. Call to Prayer by Msgr. Morris

Minutes from the March Meeting were read and corrected. Motion to approve was passed.

Old Business Concerning Parish Pastoral Plan

- **Coral Heights/Resource Center:** Msgr. reported the house still is having a flea problem after it had been exterminated several times. Sister Rosamunda located a new batch of fleas, and the exterminator indicated these were baby fleas and applied another treatment, hoping this will take care of the situation. A parishioner from St. Cecelia School offered to paint the inside and outside of the house and another parishioner donated \$6,000 to replace the old kitchen cabinets and make minor repairs as needed in the house. A group of all interested parties affiliated with the house met on April 18th at 7:00 pm to discuss SCOS plans with Duke Energy and other options for uses of the house. This group included the Coral Heights Neighborhood Association, Sheriff's Department, Karen Seals from the County Commission and Msgr. Morris along with representatives from the Pastoral Council. A committee was formed to select a name for the house. E. Luker, B. Langley, T. Goodrich and G. Green volunteered for the task. Msgr. indicated that only two people outside of those assigned to SCOS, have keys to the house, namely Vern Gold and Jay of the Coral Heights Neighborhood Association.
- **Catholic Leadership Institute** In answering Msgr. question " How many participated in this year's survey?", the latest results provided by the Catholic Leadership Institute indicated the following:
 - 2015: 473 completed the survey (Email 233; Generic Link 190; Paper 50)
 - 2017: 480 completed the survey, (Email 97; Generic Link 218; Paper 165)
 An increase occurred in the original base number of participants by 7.
 Result Consultations will be made available May-August 2017.

Smart Goals for the Parish Priority Plan

- **Forming Intentional Disciples:** A meeting with J. Pennell is set for April 28th to discuss options and to formalize directions for the existing programs.
- **Caring for our Common Home** Sr. Kathleen reported FAST will meet on April 24th to discern options for discussion by the group.
- **Connecting Our Faith to the Family and the Community.**
 1. **Marriage Enrichment Program:** Fr. Marino will meet with J. and K. Malarkey to discuss other programs that might be well matched to the needs of the parish.
 2. **Baycare Congregational Assistance Program:** Msgr. announced SCOS affiliation with Social Services indicated 23 people have participated in the program. (5 male and 18 female). Some of the broad services offered include counseling for physical and emotional abuse, addiction, and marital problems. Interest shown by parishioners reflects the need for addressing mental health issues, as the program has been recognized as a great service for family. Only two parishes from the Diocese, St. Lawrence and SCOS, are participating in the program. Anyone interested participating should call the Rectory Office for a referral.
 3. **Christ Renews His Parish** Program is rescheduled for consideration next January.
 4. **Rescheduled talk on Dementia:** S. Helton indicated the talk will be moved to a date next fall or spring pending the availability of the speaker.
 5. **Discernment Process for New Members on the Pastoral Counsel:** 8 names have been submitted, with 2 additional presented at the April meeting. If the 2 accept the nomination, 10 people will participate in the Discernment Process. The following schedule was arranged by G. Greene, C. Creamer and B Langley:

April 24 – Nominee Information Night

May 6 - Pastoral Council Discernment meets in Rooms 5 & 6.

Mrs. Johnston will lead the discernment process.

May 8 – Pastoral Council Transition Meeting

June 12 – First meeting of New Council

- Msgr. reported Bishop Parkes will celebrate Confirmation at SCOS on April 30th at 6:00p.m. Mass for three parishes: St. Justin Martyr, St. Mathews and SCOS. He asked to share any ideas we may have as to how we can provide a special welcome from the parish to our new bishop.
- **Parish Twinning:** K. Bentley is exploring possibilities of Twinning in Bogota, Columbia, along with other places. Msgr. is looking into a program entitled “Bless the Children, Inc”, Clearwater, FL

Reports on Commissions

- **Stewardship Commission:** Deacon R. Wells will participate in a Statewide Conference on Stewardship in Orlando April 29th. The Pastoral Council is encouraged to participate. If interested, contact Deacon Wells for more information.
- **Faith Formation Commission:** E. Chinery indicated the Youth Ministry Program has had low enrollment over the past several years and was canceled the past year. Possible reasons:
 - 1.) A lack of enthusiasm by the students,
 - 2.) A program that doesn’t seem to motivate students
 - 3.) Students disconnect due to multiple High Schools.

Msgr. is considering proposing a financial incentive to support the development of a new program involving parental input. He suggests:

- 1.) Parental/SCOS Education staff collaboration to create and generate alternative ideas to promote the program and motivate children of all ages.
- 2.) Students/SCOS Education staff collaboration asking their views of church activities best designed to meet their needs and expectations.

S. Paul and C. Creamer will represent the parish and work with E. Chinery in presenting the consideration of how to best proceed in serving the children of our parish at a meeting with the parents on September 1st. E. Chinery will search for a leader who can create ideas and activities beginning with the HS students.

- **Justice Commission:** Sr. Kathleen indicated the Recycling Program is still a work in progress.

Pastor’s Remarks and Announcements

- Msgr. expressed his deep gratitude for the Parish’s involvement in the Coral Heights acquisition, and reminded us our primary goal is our focus is on our families and youth. Also, he is very happy with the new grill installed in the picnic area of the parish.
- SCOC is invited to attend “The Joy of the Gospel” Conference to be held in Orlando this July. Bishops from all over the U.S. will be attending. Msgr. indicated this will present an opportunity for SCOS to “toot” its own horn sharing its accomplishments in building Christ’s church.
- **V Encuentro** discussion questions were recently distributed to all Parish Ministries with a very low return rate. Msgr. asked what the various ministries can do as groups and as a parish as we reach out to the Hispanic community. One noticeable activity in the parish is the recitation of the rosary in Spanish after Monday Evening Prayer.
- Msgr. and Fr. J. Marino attended a workshop recently on the effects of pornography on children. The average age of children exposed to pornographic material is 8 years old. Further discussion is needed to address issues of morality in children.
- Food distribution at the Coral Heights House will be on April 21st. Carlos Hernandez is willing to offer scholarship to St. Patrick’s and Scared Heart Schools for those children living in the Coral Heights area.

Next meeting: May 8, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Resurrection Hall, Room 10.

Adjournment and closing prayer was by Sister Kathleen at 8:25 pm.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by Sonia Helton