

## St. Catherine of Siena Pastoral Council Minutes

February 12, 2018

**Members Present:** Msgr. R. Morris, B. Langley, C. Creamer,, K.Bentley, AM Hoobin, J. Hlavacka, B. Atherton, M. Ustick

**Absent:** S. Helton

**Religious Clergy, Nuns and Laity Present:** J. Marino, Sr. Kathleen

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

Minutes from the January meeting were read and corrected. Motion to approve was passed

### OLD BUSINESS

**Pastoral Plan:** The Catholic Leadership Institute prepared a summary of findings of St. Catherine Siena's Disciple Maker Index for the years 2015 and 2017. The Institute will also develop a Power Point presentation that will be shared with the Parish that "summarizes strengths and areas of opportunities for St. Catherine Siena Parish based on Parishioner submitted data collected from 2015 to 2017 "(page 1:*Catholic Leadership Institute Summary of Findings*). Monsignor shared that over the two years that the survey was administered, 957 were submitted by parishioners via either online or paper format. The results from the analysis of the responses from 2017 and the difference between responses of 2015 and 2017 will provide a foundation from which to develop a new Pastoral Plan for St. Catherine Siena. St. Catherine Siena's Pastoral Priority is to form intentional disciples.

**Parish Twinning:** Keith reported that he connected and is staying in touch with Sisters in Bolivia who expressed interest in a fundraiser to repair the roof of an orphanage they run. Keith questioned whether we, as a parish, are prepared to twin with another parish and share their mission or are we, at this time, more service oriented. Monsignor noted that this issue is a matter of timing, explaining that a number of people have approached him regarding the concerns about human trafficking. The Council felt that we need to listen to the Holy Spirit to guide us as a community to set a vision and develop a team to meet the needs of the mission we decide to address. Monsignor mentioned that when multiple people express a need for a specific ministry, we need to listen and give them the opportunity to develop that ministry. He cited three women who came to him sharing interest in a Bereavement group and that now we have a monthly Bereavement ministry in which 9 to 12 people are regularly participating. Keith shared that Parish Twinning is a major interest of his but he recognizes the need for the time and venue to be a good fit for our parish. Parish Twinning will continue to be reviewed.

**Visioning the Way:** Monsignor continues to meet with Bishop Parkes and his team to develop a Diocesan Pastoral Plan for the future. The Bishop's goal is to have everything done by April and to have three main priorities for the diocese to emerge from these meetings. Monsignor would like for St. Catherine to incorporate the Bishop's priorities within our new Pastoral Plan.

**Parish Council Discernment April 28th 2018:** The 2018 Discernment team includes Keith Bentley, Brenda Atherton, and Beth Langley. Linda Johnston from Holy Family agreed to be the mediator for the

Discernment process to be held April 28th. Council members who agreed to share their experiences with the Parish Council and its mission with the Parish on March 17 and 18 are as follow:

4:00 PM Mass Saturday:	Anne Marie Hoobin
7:00 AM Mass Sunday	Beth Langley
9:00 AM Mass Sunday	Anne Marie Hoobin
11:00 AM Mass Sunday	Keith Bentley
6:00 PM Mass Sunday	Brenda Atherton

*The schedule for the Discernment process:*

March 17/18: The first bulletin announcement seeking nominations of candidates for the Parish Council: Nomination forms available in the office and in the narthex

March 24th/25th: Second bulletin announcement

March 28th: Nomination forms due in the office

March 31st: Questionnaire and acceptance of nomination mailed to candidates

April 13th: Deadline to return nomination form

April 17th: Information night

April 28th: Discernment Process

May 14th: New members welcomed at the Pastoral Council Meeting

Schedule to be submitted to Deacon Wells for Liturgy committee and to Therese for the bulletin.

### ***50th Anniversary of the Diocese of St. Petersburg***

May 6th: Bishop Parkes will consecrate the Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary: Monsignor shared that the Diocese is encouraging small groups to participate in using the *33 Days to Morning Glory* retreat that emphasizes Marian consecration and he will purchase the books for the FIAT and other interested groups.

1. The Bishop wants to consecrate the Diocese to Our Mother, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This will take place in May at 3:00 PM at the Cathedral.
2. On June 16th at 11:00 AM at St. Judes there will be a celebration of the Dioceses on the actual anniversary date. This is a ticketed event.
3. There will be a Diocesan Family Fest in October 27th at Al Lopez Park in Tampa. There will also be a student film contest featuring the 50th Anniversary of the Diocese and the winning film will be shown at the Family Fest.

***Parish Security:*** A representative from the Sheriff's office met with church staff, including ushers, greeters, and Sacristans. He shared strategies for managing the Parishioners in the event of a shooting. Monsignor noted that he felt that we are doing things the right way and that questions from the group were addressed. The representative advised that owning a concealed weapons permit is not encouraged for two reasons: 1) has the individual been trained what to do in a mob scene, and 2) if one pulls out a gun and law enforcement arrives, approximately 30% of the time, innocent people trying to help are shot. Kate, Bob Murray, and Monsignor went to a diocesan meeting with Homeland security. Monsignor also shared that the main plan is to run, hide, or fight back. Best thing to do is to scream when you see someone suspicious. He will also meet with the Largo Police who will be in front of the church and to ask how we may best use their services for the time we have them. They were asked to come in and take a walk in the back of the church. The representative also advised placing a sign in each classroom with a

specific phrase to read when calling 911 that includes the exact location of the classroom (in Ascension Hall in room 10 and/or the church (e.g. across from fire station 47).

***Parish Improvements:*** The Council prioritized improvements at the previous Council meeting. The Finance Council approved the recommended improvements. Total cost was estimated to be \$657,000 for renovating the bathrooms in Resurrection Hall, Ascension hall floors, entrance way to the Parish Center and the Church offices. Finance committee recommended taking \$275,000, add another 50,000 from savings, and ask the Dioceses for a 300,000 loan. As long as the church has loans, we receive a tax write off by paying off our debts, and we received a decrease in our APA payment. Painting the exterior of the church had already been budgeted. Will go to the Finance Council for the Diocese who will need to approve the loan.

***FAST:*** Monsignor likes to work with FAST, especially to show solidarity for some of the smaller African American Baptist Churches who are focusing on justice issues. However, Monsignor shared that he is willing to listen to his staff and the feelings of the Parishioners regarding our involvement in FAST. He reported that he increased the amount of financial support St. Catherine contributed to FAST and that he is willing to have FAST meetings in our church. The Justice commission will be working this year on the Human Trafficking problem.

***Discipleship:*** Sherri Briand and Barbara Goodrich attended the National Alpha Conference and they shared that the information shared was valuable and focused on parishioners going out into the peripheries to evangelize. Monsignor clarified that the Enquentro (Encounter) movement focuses on going out into the community to talk with someone who is in the “periphery” or to go out to observe people in the periphery. The challenge is knowing how to find the peripheries if we don’t observe. He suggested sitting in a hospital, mall, or park and observing what kind of people are there, what their challenges may be, what is going on in their lives and approaching them to speak with them about their issues. The difficulty in following this model is to know how to encourage people to go out and talk with people or observe. Council members suggested making a video for people to view people in the periphery.

Monsignor shared that two parishioners in LPMI training are going into Coral Heights and knocking on the doors of each home in this housing development to find out what they may need to improve their quality of life. The goal is to build a relationship with the neighborhood to bring them together to support each other. He suggested that people talk to the people knocking on the doors about their experiences. Monsignor summarized that the real problem is to be faithful in the face of challenge.

Marla shared her opinion that Alpha was entertaining and the attendees enjoyed this program but they didn’t really have any specific task to accomplish. With Encounter, the attendees are required to go deeper in their thinking process. Monsignor asked whether we asked others to come to church with us and several shared that the people we know are already in church. Monsignor challenged us to be creative and to discover ways to meet people to invite. He applauded council members for recognizing that something isn’t working and needs to be changed. Monsignor summarized that we are learning what works and what doesn’t; we are asking the spirit to help us and to work within our parish to identify a program that will be a good fit for our Parish. Marla also reported that people in the Parish are asking for a teaching Mass.

### ***Pastor’s Remarks***

The Bishop’s events are coming up and we are discovering what works in our Parish as well as challenges present, especially within the area of Faith Formation. Monsignor shared that he received a call from the

Juvenile Welfare Board notifying him that they are putting on an annual symposium linking faith based community with social services. The event will be held at the Suncoast Cathedral Thursday, February 27th. Sister Rosamunda and a few selected Parishioners are attending. Monsignor does not wish to promote going out to people simply to hand them a card and telling them to give a call to the names on the card. Ryan Foley will be speaking to the parents of our youth and other interested parties about the growing issue of internet Pornography. Ryan will be discussing a program, *Covenant Eyes*, that will equip parents to have conversations with their children about the issue.

Monsignor offered a closing prayer. The next Council meeting will be on March 12th

***Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM***

Respectfully submitted  
Beth Langley