

SEAS Pastoral Council

Meeting of Monday – November 28, 2022

Mass at 7:00; Meeting at 7:30

Pastoral Council Goal 2022 – 2023:

- The Pastoral Council will increase attendance at our parish through personal contact with those who have left the parish during the COVID 19 restrictions and have not returned.

Present: Sharon, Ann, Patty, Barb, Kathy Debbie, Mark, Culver, Terry, James, Bob, Jeanne, Fr. Gagnier, Alex, Rachel

Guests: JoEllen, Chris

Excused: Janice, Dawn, John

1. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS: Jim thanked everyone for attending and for all they have done for the parish. He reflected on the Feast Day of St. Catherine Laboure. He told us that she declared Mary as her mother after her own mother passed away. She is known for the contribution of the Miraculous Medal.
2. OPEN FORUM (Guests): Chris expressed serious concern about the announcement in Fr. Gagnier's letter to the parish about the parishioner who wanted to sponsor a dinner for 6 members who would pledge \$200 to the CMA. Chris referred to the Gospel story of the widow's mite and was concerned for the separation of people in the parish who could afford to pledge that amount and those who couldn't.

The parishioner was present and shared that he heard another parish was doing this and thought he would offer it. He regretted the way it was perceived. He offered it to everyone, no matter what their pledge amount.

Further discussion went on about informing Parishioners about the CMA and what services in the Diocese it funds. It needs to be made clear that the CMA money does not go toward the settlement. Fr. Gagnier suggested an insert in the bulletin. Parish Council members were concerned it wouldn't be read. It was suggested that an announcement, either bulletin or pulpit, could be made each week highlighting a different service that CMA funds. "Thank you for contributing to CMA, this is where your money is going, it does not go to the Settlement." Fr. Gagnier reiterated putting an insert in the bulletin.

Fr. Gagnier shared the recent stats: 77 donors, \$15,130, 39.8%

(last year at this time: 98 donors, \$20,827 51.7 %)

Council members discussed concern about the lack of trust and anger about the settlement. People were told we don't have financial responsibility for the settlement and now we do.

### 3. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

#### 4. REVIEW/ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PC MEETING (October 26, 2022)

Ann motioned to approve October 26 minutes; Kathy seconded it. Motion was approved by consensus.

#### 5. OLD BUSINESS:

a) Signup on contact list for parishioners who have not returned. Not many people were sent letters. Can we look at the list once again. Sharon said you can stop in the office and look it over.

b) Visit to Nativity pastoral council, Tuesday Nov. 15 th at 7:00 pm, review.

Fr. Gagnier liked the way they moved along. The various committees didn't detail reports, so it was hard to know what is really going on in Nativity parish. When we cluster, we will need to ask a lot of questions, that are assumed information.

Also, there is the Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 5

c) Thanksgiving Dessert, Saturday 11/12, review:

We need to encourage people to stay even if they didn't bring anything. There was plenty of food.

d) Update on payments to bankruptcy lawyer.

We will have to contribute to the settlement. December 7 is the date when the court will hopefully accept the proposal. As soon as we know the answers to our questions, we will hold a "Town Meeting" for the Parish to tell everyone.

#### 6. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Discuss possible parish survey.

The Parish survey is taken from the Diocese. It is a form of Google Forms. Results will not be sent to the Dioceses. It is for the purpose of knowing what's going on in our parishes before Clustering. We would like our results to be separate so we can see where we stand.

There is another meeting on Dec. 13 at Nativity we can attend.

b) Time and Talent will be sent to everyone. One ministry can pick a week and set up a table to share with parishioners about that specific ministry. Kick off of the Time and Talent can be either Jan. 14/15 or Jan 21/22. It can be sent out with end of year statements.

We need more volunteers to bring back ministries. We can have a kick off with a Homily or something.

Treasure will be in Spring after Easter.

## 7. MONTHLY COMMITTEE/STEWARDSHIP REPORTS:

- Finance Council Debbie

Town hall meeting of Nov. 20 was cancelled since there wasn't enough answers to our questions to share with parish. We looked into where are money for Haiti is going and it is going to good use.

Barb moved to accept minutes, Rachel seconded, and it was approved by consensus.

- Liturgy Barb

Barb deferred to the minutes. The concern was brought up to Liturgy committee that there are members of the choir who are not cantors, who want to come back to choir and Matt isn't including them. Barb and Kathy said it was discussed at the Liturgy Committee meeting, and they said a survey went out, and a meeting was held. Six people attended the meeting. The question was if people were comfortable returning with COVID concerns. The Liturgy committee will revisit that discussion next meeting.

Patty moved to accept the minutes, Jeanne seconded, the minutes were approved by consensus.

- Parish Life Jeanne

Jeanne reported that she is the only member active at this time of the Parish Life Committee. She asked for volunteers for the Jan 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Soup supper and mass. Soup at 6, mass at 7. Debbie, Ann Sharon, Kathy, Jeanne, Terry and JoEllen volunteered to bring in crockpots of soup. Italian bread will be bought.

- Executive Bob

Bob Deferred to the minutes. Kathy moved to accept the minutes, Patty seconded, and approved by consensus.

- Human Concerns/Social Ministry Kathy

Kathy deferred the minutes. Alex moved to approve the minutes, Terry seconded, approved by consensus.

- Faith Formation Sharon I/Sandy

Sharon deferred to the minutes. Kathy remarked how wonderful it was to see the kids' involvement at the Thanksgiving dessert night.

Debbie moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Jeanne approved by consensus.

- Facilities Bob

Bob deferred the minutes, Barb moved to accept, Debbie seconded, approved by consensus.

8. PASTORAL LEADER COMMENTS: Fr. Gagnier said the church looks nice. We have a lot of talent. We are in a new Liturgical Year. Vatican II made it possible for the people to be exposed to Scriptures. He has a study on the book of Romans that is accessible on our Parish website.

9. OPEN FORUM FOR MEMBERS:

Alice L has offered to do a seminar on funeral planning for SEAS, in March 2023. Fr. Would like to work with her on that. We will get her to give us a date and put in the bulletin.

10. CLOSING PRAYER: Bob

2022-2023 Meeting Schedule / Lector and closing prayer:

(All meetings begin at 7:30 PM preceded by daily Mass at 7:00)

September 26, 2022 Kathy

October 24 Jeanne

November 28 John

January 23, 2023 Patty

February 27 Rachael

March 27 Debbie

April 24 Alex

May 22 Dawn

June 26 Jim

July 24 Fr. Gagnier