

Pastoral Council (PC)

May 15, 2017

Members Present: Monsignor Ed Hankiewicz, Mary Pereira, Jude Stover, Declan O'Donohue, Jennifer Stoddard, and Seth Ashby (Finance Council)

Opening prayer led by Msgr Ed.

I. **Review of Parishioner Concerns with Msgr. Ed**

During this time the PC members notified Msgr with the concerns that parishioners have expressed over the last few weeks. Msgr's response was as follows:

- A. **Staffing Changes:** The purpose of replacing the Pastoral Associate was to streamline the positions and workload. Msgr is currently working with the diocese to hire a new DRE as well as office secretary. The position of Assistant to the DRE has been eliminated. The new office staff will most likely include a DRE, secretary and bookkeeper. Currently, there are three additional parishes in our diocese that are looking for a DRE, which means that the process to rehire could take longer than usual.
- B. **What is happening with the parish; are we being clustered or considered to close:** Originally, when Fr Don retired, our parish was to cluster with St Alphonsus. However, the Bishop asked Msgr to become the pastor at St Isidore which withheld the clustering. There are no plans to close St. Isidore in the future.
- C. **What is the status of the current ministries:** Msgr sees no reason to discontinue any of the current ministries (WNO, LIFE Homeschool co-op, VBS, etc.). The only concern is Fort Night for Freedom. Msgr is working on obtaining additional speakers. He supports the continuation of WNO and LIFE Homeschool Co-op.
- D. **Why don't we see Msgr more often at parish events like WNO:** Msgr is only on campus two days a week. During this time, he usually has appointments with parishioners and other people who seek council. He has given WNO to Fr Don as an apostolate and wants to respect that authority. The PC encouraged Msgr to drop in more often.
- E. **What is happening with the retired priests on campus:** The priests will remain on campus. If they do choose move out, the use of the apartments will be re-evaluated. The Vicar for Priest, Fr Don Weber, relies on each priests' judgement and Msgr's observations to determine if a move is necessary.

II. Vision for the Parish

- A. **What is Msgr's vision for the parish:** The vision is one priest on campus. Services, such as confession, will eventually be reduced as priests leave the campus.
- B. **Confession/Reconciliation Changes:** Due to reduction in priest availability, the times to receive this sacrament will be reduced (times before and after mass). Confession before mass needs to conclude approximately 30 minutes before mass. The priest celebrating mass needs this time to spiritually prepare himself beforehand.

III. Communication

- A. **What is the best way to get in touch with Msgr:** Msgr does not use the listed email on the bulletin. The best way to contact him is through the office secretary.
- B. **What is the best way to get in touch with the current PC members:** The PC does not have access to the email listed in the bulletin. The best way to contact them is in person or via personal email for now.
- C. Msgr has also agreed to have a column in the bulletin that would explain any changes or catechize the parishioners.
- D. The PC needs to contact the office to ask that Msgr and the PC email be removed from the bulletin and website.

IV. What is the role of the Pastoral Council:

- A. Msgr sees the PC as a group to generate ideas that would facilitate fellowship for the parishioners and surrounding community (ie Gatherings, Celebrations, etc.).
- B. Msgr also recognizes the value of the PC's insights and as voice of parishioner concerns.

V. New/Future Projects and Ministries

- A. **St Vincent De Paul Society:** 17 people have initially signed up. They will be meeting after 10:30 mass. They will discuss and take action that supports the needs of the neighborhood.
- B. **Centennial:** There has not been any response to a Centennial Celebration. Msgr still needs a committee to head this project up before moving forward.

C. Parish Festival: This project is subject to David Harwood forming a team of volunteer workers. There was discussion to add the Centennial Celebration with Festival. More to come.

Closing prayer led by Jude Stover.

*The next meeting is temporarily set for July 17th, 2017.

*These Minutes have been approved by Monsignor Hankiewicz