

SAINT BRENDAN PARISH: Pastoral Council Meeting

June 4th, 2015

ATTENDING: Fr. Jim Northrop, Linda Haptonstall, Carlos Orozo (seminarian), Desiree Engel, Reinaldo Aguilar, Jason Swager

ABSENT: Brigitte Blair, Chris Flynn, Ken Elliott, John Bush

DISCERNING: Peggy Ross, Jay Green

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting started at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Jason opened with a prayer

MISSION STATEMENT: The Mission Statement was read as a reminder of what we are called to do.

Open Microphone: None

Discernment Day: Discernment day is Saturday, June 6th. Peggy and Jay will be there. Armando will be discerning between Pastoral Council and Worship & Spiritual Life.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Fr. Jim and the Principal Search Committee were very busy last month, but a candidate was chosen and he accepted the position.
- Budget will have some impact on Parish Staff. 2 positions will be affected.
- Confirmation went well; always an exciting Mass, but need to be careful on the way to the Church. Running down the hill can lead to painful landings. ☺
- The summer is going to be busy; 18 weddings planned.
- Annual Catholic Appeal in progress: 13% of Parish has responded, accounting for nearly 80% of the target, which is roughly \$145K.
- New sound system is being installed in phases. Current phase is the new soundboard. New speakers will be coming in following weeks.

EYES AND EARS:

Peggy reported hearing from several parishioners about the silence on budget decisions. Perception is that the issue may not have been as urgent as originally made out to be.

Several mentions that Pentecost went well.

LAISON REPORTS

School Commission: Desiree

- No meeting last month

Faith Formation: (Brigette in Malawi, Linda reporting)

- Faith Formation assessment distributed to commission.
- Prioritizing tasks
- Two parishioners discerning on. David Sullivan may help with web work.

Hispanic Commission: Reinaldo

- Incident at First Communion Mass where a parishioner thought that their phone had been stolen. She was upset, demanding help, Reinaldo attempted to help. Phone was found after Mass.
- Another incident where a little girl was wandering around the church, not sure where her parents were at. Ushers helped her look; when parents were found, they did not seem concerned. Parents need keep track of their kids and not allow them to wander. Bringing lost kids up to Fr. and asking for the parents to come get them may help shame parents into watching their kids.
- Issues with kids playing in the Narthex during Mass.
- Francisco: looking to have lunch after Mass on third Sundays.
- Invite more of the parish for the Day of the Dead, Dec 12 feast. May have a speaker come in. Looking for volunteers to help.
- A large quantity of coffee was donated by a family; will sell after Masses with the proceeds going to the parish.
- Hospitality ministers will receive training for emergency situations.

Finance Council: (Ken absent)

- Fr. Jim covered the highlights in his Pastor's Report

Facilities: Jason

- No meeting

Technology: Jason

- Email lists were announced, website under reconstruction – both targeting GPS action items.

Worship and Spiritual Life: Fr. Jim/Linda

- Triduum debriefing
- Looking to have the Church unlocked earlier on Saturdays

Life, Peace and Justice Commission: (John absent, Linda reporting)

- Three people discerning

Stewardship Commission: (Chris absent, Linda reporting)

- Tammy talked about retreat towards unifying the Parish, for the whole family. Trying to schedule; will probably be later in the year.

Mass Survey:

- Jason asked if the council would approve a survey of parishioners on church attendance habits. Before recommendations can be made on changes to Masses – or if necessary – data more solid than anecdotal needs to be used.
- Focus would be on which masses a person attends, if they split attendance with other parishes, and the impact of the Youth Mass, inclinations towards changes.
- Concerns were raised; if the Sunday evening Mass were offered all the time, more people would come to it. Mentioned in the past, but the current congregation of the Sunday evening Mass has been drawn from existing masses, not bringing in new parishioners. Survey may help get more solid numbers.
- Council accepted starting the process, but would like to review/decide on the survey to determine if it should be sent out.
- Timing of survey will be an issue; it should be made available to Sunday evening members, but that Mass is recessing for the summer.
- Jason will ask Mickey Walsh for help with the survey; she has talents in this area.

UPCOMING:

- Discernment day. Desiree will help setup.

DEBRIEF:

- Ask the Pastor, 8-9 peoples showed up – it was only advertised to the School parents. Went well. Perhaps plan another, but open to the Parish too, possibly after a Saturday Mass?

CLOSING PRAYER and ADJOURNMENT:

Pastoral Council closed at 8:10 PM with Desiree leading a prayer over Fr. Jim.

