

Saint Mark Catholic Church
Pastoral Council Minutes
January 23, 2023

In Attendance: Father Michael Carlson, Christine Wladyka, Myrna Crosby, Chad Wilson, Tim O'Bryant, John Ferrannini, William Mooney, Patrick Slusser, Lisa Daily, Fernando DeUrquidi, Suzanne Broda, Kathleen Harrison, Scott Bruno, David Balmaceda

Absent: Father John Putnam, Tricia Sisson, Peter Miano

Prayer -Intercession- (5 minutes)

Fr Putnam

Accept Minutes

Christine

Guest Speaker: Knights of Columbus (15 minutes)

Vincent Famularo

- Mission is to serve the parish, event cooking (i.e., pancake breakfast), Grand Knight may want to be part of the pc in the future, would like to recruit young fathers, provided an organizational chart with all the services they provide & organizations they support. 120 knights with about 20% participation. Contact Ray Fitzgerald to become a knight (18+, practicing Catholic).

Chairman's Opening Remarks (5 minutes)

John

- Knights - Christmas tree lighting. Father said John could look into the possible purchase of a large artificial tree like they have at Birkdale Village. He currently has an email out to their property manager regarding their tree.
- Contacted a pc member for Vice Chair commission
- Christine stepping away from Buildings & Facilities. Chad will join.
- Suzanne will be stepping down from PC. John has contacted a replacement.
- PC Constitution – Tim, Patrick – Yay - 13, Nay - 0
 - Article 4.2 - The Pastor will set the number of Council Members and each will serve a 3 year term; Eliminate B.
 - Article 5 - Officers will hold office for a term based on the discretion of the Pastor, who will be President as long as he is assigned to St. Mark Parish.
 - Article 5.4 - A. Responsible for the update to the Pastoral Plan every five (5) years; B. Intended successor to the Chair
 - Article 5.8 – Create a generic email address

ACTION: Christine contact Sue Bruce re: bulletin announcement, add meeting to calendar and general pc email address.

Commission Highlights (10 minutes)

Christine

Stewardship – pancake breakfast, meet and greet event, pastoral plan review: goal 3 – trash/recycling programs, look at paper usage, behavior change with staff to become more electronic.
Evangelization – Mariana is back from maternity leave, until 248 ppl signed up for Christmas tree lighting (verifiable event); Hallow extended for the rest of year, FF communication will be improved using existing

tools, proposing revamp of FF to make more family based – currently implemented in 3 other parishes, Paul will put a focus group together to try the new program out, passed along the pastoral plan, ambassador program needs bilingual volunteers, small group registration starting January 29th.

Communication – Email recipients 4690, FF uses same system for email, 10400 followers on Instagram, Eucharistic Congress procession viewed 136K, helping out other ministries, St. Mark school with different communication media, Pastoral plan: moved a lot of material to electronic, calendar communication is a large project – need to make life easier for staff and parishioner communication/use, short videos are not being done anymore, Sue Bruce takes care of calendar/facility requests, new software being evaluated.

Education – Same as evangelization update.

Parish Life – Divorce support meet every Monday at old Lowe's foods, social committee continues to help at Sunday events (pancake, donut, bagel)

Community Life – March for Life Charlotte had a great parishioner turnout, Fr. Huber spoke, Dr. Harrison gave keynote for National Right to Life in Raleigh, RITI needs volunteers to help clean-up. Meeting with Hope House to learn more. Pastoral Plan: currently reviewing. Note: RITI opportunity to evangelize – what can we do to invite them to know Christ?

Liturgy & Worship - Sacred Music job opening, currently holding interviews, security going well, home bound ministry would like 4 reserved spots in the parking lot, need more music ministers, altar servers need to be updated – looking to streamline process to get better participation. Lent, Easter, Scout Sunday dates have been discussed. Pastoral Plan: needs review; updates next meeting.

Buildings & Facilities – organ has been serviced so we have more time to figure out what to do, sound is deadened due to ceiling and transepts so this is part of consideration. Types: pipe, hybrid, electric. We currently have electric, Fr. Putnam does not want a digital organ, hybrid has pipes, but is still electric, digital with pipes we are waiting for bid, pipe organ only bid coming. Fixed floor outlets in parish center, renovating an office in Leanne's office area, will help reorganize copy room, working on replacing adoration ceiling tile, changing locks for security team – looking at it.

ACTION: Scott to determine if we need a new architectural plan.

Finance – No new update.

Security Update for parish (5 minutes)

John

- Incident at 11am mass, gentleman went up the elevator, tried to steal microphone and then went to the sacristy – boxed him in; perpetrator was in total control at all time and was not under the influence. Fr. Huber, Father Putnam, ushers aware of situation. Working on getting the locks updated on choir loft. Working closely with the ushers and sharing protocol. Working with St. Thomas Aquinas; they have 32 cameras, working with them to help their security team. Reached out to St. Therese; they are in transition. Starting prep for Holy Week, ordination (Laney Lord) and Confirmation. We have more homeless people at St. Mark; need to figure out what we can do in those situations.

Pastoral Plan 2023 – Notes/Questions (20 minutes)

John

- Review with chairs, review goals, update the goals
- Pastoral plan review plan with tag, get rid of irrelevant, pc tag bring back current state, chair needs to work with commission/pc to get their 5 year goals. Goal is to have plan completed by late April.

Parish Operations Update (10 minutes)

Scott

- Drainage issue – we cannot get the big companies to do it because we are small business for them, small companies do not have the equipment – still out to bid; corner of building (northwest side) – same issue we had 10 years ago on the other side of the building, the utility companies have not come out to mark which is delaying moving forward; Bill Mooney working on the landscape project at rectory; ongoing issues at rectory with squirrels, leaks, modifications. New cleaning crew has been put in place and we will see how that goes. Parking lot lighting has been replaced – we were looking at LED but it will increase our costs to \$2K per month.
- Scott on council for 7+ years, he will start to attend on a regular basis, Scott on staff for 14 years; first 7 was grounds and buildings, took on staff as well as grounds and buildings 7 years ago; staff of 30+, larger budget; there has been little to no oversight for the past 14 years, Pastor and Scott have a very open relationship, Independent contractor for 22 years, owned multiple companies; very prayerful, lead by God in everything he does, Father is not as involved because Scott's job is to take as much off of his plate as possible. Scott tries to be as patient as he can with staff volunteers; some deliver and some do not. Scott shut down everything for 18 months for covid – a lot of maintenance fell behind and we are trying to catch up, participates actively on Finance Council; works to be a good steward with parish money.

General Remarks (10 minutes)

Council

- Sacred Music – 2 interviews, 1 this week. Most experiences
- Liz Swanson gave her notice for stewardship/volunteer coordinator; moving back up north.
- Definitions and classification of St. Mark apostolates and ministries are based upon Priest, Prophet and King. For a group to be considered a Ministry it must fall under one of those three terms. Anything outside of those terms is an Apostolate.
 - Priest, anything having to do with the Liturgy; Liturgy Committee, Church Music, Ushers; Sacristans, etc.
 - Prophet, anything having to do with evangelization; Faith Formation, Evangelization Committee, etc
 - King, the overall administration of the Parish; Finance Committee, staff, etc
- Church Windows:
 - St. Martin: Balance: \$1695.31
 - St. Patrick: Balance: \$7,653.00
 - St. Florian: \$16,225.00

Council Comments/Eyes and Ears

Christine

- No new updates

Closing Prayer

Fr Putnam