

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
November 17th, 2015
Approved on January 5, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Father Celestine Byekwaso, Jerry DeBruin, Jim Margetta, Pat Kosuth, Ann LaFleur, Nora LaPlant, Jamie Benson, Mike Folgert and Ryan Johnson.

1. Meeting was called to order in John Paul II room at 6:30 p.m. by Jim Margetta. Father Celestine led the opening prayer.
2. **Approval / Amendments**
 - a. Minutes from the meeting on October 20th, 2015 were approved as recommended by Ann LaFleur and seconded by Jerry DeBruin.
 - b. Agenda for November 17th meeting – Mike Folgert made a motion to accept the agenda and Ryan Johnson seconded the motion and it was passed.
3. **Public Participation / Correspondence / Information from Parish staff members:**
 - a. No new correspondence.
4. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Decorating teams** – No major update or changes, preparations for Advent are complete. Dates have been set for decorating for Christmas – December 20th.
 - b. **Hospitality Status.** Stewardship forms were entered into the system and Nora LaPlant provided copies of the sorted list to all council members. Jaime Benson agreed to contact Elizabeth Kopish about the form letter created by Ryan Johnson to send to all individuals / families that have volunteered. Jaime will also get the electronic copy of the list so the form letters can be filled out. He will then notify the council members on when he would like us to gather to complete the mailing tasks. Nora LaPlant also shared the e-mail showing the notification of the identified leaders of each ministry with the electronic list.
 - c. **Welcoming Committee.** Ann LaFleur knows of three individuals who are willing to take the lead on the welcoming committee. Jim Margetta will provide Ann with a short list of potential items for such a committee to lead – which will include both welcoming and hospitality. Ann and Ryan Johnson both signed up to be part of this ministry and will take the information to these individuals at a kickoff meeting.
 - d. **Finance Council alignment.** Father recommended that the two councils meet at least three times a year to stay aligned. The council agreed this is a good idea toward using the funds available as part of our planning processes and mission. Jim Margetta to schedule such a meeting in February 2016.
5. **Activities / Projects**
 - a. **Direction of the council.** Jaime Benson completed a survey on the future direction and desired allocation of funds providing the results. The survey was given to the Pastoral and Finance Council members as well as Father. The results will be sent to the Finance Council for their review so we can discuss together in February. Education was voted as the highest need in both analysis that Jamie completed on the survey.
 - b. **Adult Faith Formation Options.** The request for feedback on the ten potential topics provided by the Diocese was summarized. Two topics stood out, On the Same Page and

When Life Throws You A Curve. Ann LaFleur will investigate the potential timing for these topics for after the new year. The council also thought the descriptions when advertising should be improved – headline descriptions. Pat agreed to help Ann going forward and also said she would use the community calendar to help publicize.

- c. **Steubenville Group Activity.** Jim Margetta provided an update on the recent activities of the group which included a brainstorming event for different services and then the completion of one of those ideas. The service activity was fall clean up of someone's yard who requested help from the Marinette County Elderly Services. The group is now selling pasties for a fund raiser and plan another activity before Christmas. This item can come off the action list.
 - d. **Young Adult Leadership Group.** Ryan Johnson met with Fr. Brad of Holy Spirit/Resurrection Parish in Menominee to collaborate on the activity they have already started. It was determined that we would work together to rotate host sites for future meetings and align with the speaking events.
 - e. **Church Directory.** Ryan Johnson reported that about 175 parish members came to have their pictures taken. Others are still able to send in their pictures to include. Ryan is going to try to coordinate group pictures to include and then get a rough draft look at the book before final publication. Individual pictures will be available before Christmas, but the directory itself will likely publish in January.
 - f. **Long term need for a deacon.** Pat and Jaime were to provide an update and potential job description for future consideration. On hold at this time.
 - g. **Music.** Future plans beyond just having a backup. On hold at this time.
 - h. **Polka Mass / Parish Picnic.** Plan to book as part of the Parish Picnic in 2016. Jerry DeBruin is going to keep in touch with Ken King about any plans for the Parish Picnic for 2016. Nora LaPlant stated this topic is on the agenda for the Finance Council.
 - i. **Idea for a Christmas gift to the parish.** Pat Kosuth brought a book she is recommending we purchase and give to each family during Christmas week. The book is by Matthew Kelly and would cost the parish about \$750 for 500 books. The book would be great for daily reading for our parish family. These will be given out (one per family) at the Christmas Masses with the direction to share after reading.
 - j. **New ideas for families and growing together.** Ryan Johnson suggested two new ideas. One to have a young art board and have supplies for young children to use and display in the church. Second, is having families recognized in the bulletin as families the parish would pray for during the week. The number would be determined by Father so everyone would be listed during the year – in alphabetical order. The office will coordinate putting this into the bulletin.
6. **Pastor's report.** Father reported about planning for Catholic Schools Week to have a student talk about it at the weekend masses. Jamie Benson asked that STAA alignment to the parish is added to the agenda in the future. Jim Margetta highlighted that more families participate in the Faith Formation program than attend the school, so this should also be considered when discussing education.
 7. **Next meeting. The Pastoral council will meet again on January 5th at 6:30 PM.**
 8. **Pat Kosuth made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ryan Johnson. The meeting ended.**

Respectfully Submitted by Jim Margetta