

**St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**05/21/2018**

Present: Fr. Alex Muddu (Pastor), Debbie Tate (Chairman), Anne Bradshaw, Pat Brim, June Farrell, Steve Gadjos, Deacon Frank Learning (ex-officio), Ron Wisniewski (ex-officio)

Absent: Sue Brim (ex-officio), Deacon Dave Geary (ex-officio), Jose Lugo

Call to Order: Debbie Tate (7:30 p.m.)

Approval of Minutes: The meeting notes from the March meeting (3/15) were approved, since the April meeting served as a planning meeting only, and the March minutes had yet to be approved.

Unfinished Business:

➤ Infrastructure/Facilities:

- The parking lot lights have been replaced by LED lights, which will last much longer/require less maintenance.
- The toilets were all replaced by the Easter deadline.
- The furnace is currently working. A service tech will come back in the fall to prepare it for the cold weather.
- The church's clean-up day was a success. Steve arranged for extra mulch, which was placed on the playground area, closing out one of the safety inspection findings from last year. The space now meets the diocesan requirement for play areas.
- Sometime later in the summer, the committee will work on the shed and the lights in the parish hall.
- Jose had previously agreed to chair the Infrastructure Committee, which so far is comprised of Steve Gadjos, Jerry Lesko, Ken Tate, and Pat Brim. Steve is going to ask Jose to set a meeting so the committee can discuss needs/projects.
- Deacon Frank suggested that the rectory have an annual inspection/time set aside for regular maintenance and proposed that it take place while Fr. Alex is on his home visit in August.
- Fr. Alex requested that part of the regular maintenance be pest control. Steve will obtain an estimate.
- Fr. Alex also expressed lingering concern over the smoke residue issue from before he moved into the rectory.

➤ New PPC Members:

- We will need at least three members by the end of June to fill openings on the council – Steve's and June's terms are ending, and we have one opening due to Carlos Ortiz's resignation. Father Alex thinks it is prudent to possibly add one more for a total of four new members.
- Debbie will speak at all Masses the weekend of June 2/3.
- An announcement will be placed in the bulletin, and people can contact either Debbie or Fr. Alex or express interest online via the website by June 10.
- Fr. Alex will meet with each interested person.

- Paige Road Cemetery:
  - Several meetings have taken place between Pat Brim, Mike Wise, and Alex and Diane Sinlock to discuss a path forward.
  - The two deacons responsible for cemeteries and real estate at the diocesan office have been contacted by Pat. He has briefed Deacon Ed Handel (cemeteries) on the proposed upgrades to the cemetery and the phased approach to the project, and Deacon Ed will brief Deacon Paul Mahefky (real estate). Deacon Ed does not expect there to be any opposition from Deacon Paul.
  - Although the contractor who made a bid on the original project would like to make a bid on the current plan, much of the work to be done is work the parish can do itself – clean-up, beautification, and if necessary, destruction of dilapidated statues. However, since June’s term is ending, Pat will take the original bid for a structure, because building a structure is several months out.
  - The Sinlocks have raised about \$1,600 to be added to the original \$4,000 put up by the parish and the \$4,000 donated by Mike Wise. The total expense of the fence and small structure/area for seating is expected to be less than \$10,000.
  - Pat proposed that proceeds from one of the parish dinners could be directed to the cemetery project to cover the remaining uncovered expenses.
  - As soon as a firm plan is in place with all estimates obtained, Pat and the small committee he has been working with will host a larger meeting to brief interested parishioners.
  - Pat will have a meeting with his small cemetery committee prior to the next PPC meeting, though, and will provide an update on the final plan for the project.
  
- Security/Re-keying the Exterior Doors:
  - A key policy draft and agreement were finalized and then amended after feedback was provided.
  
- Follow-up from the Planning Session:
  - A rough idea for developing a parish mission statement that would guide all that we do as a parish was discussed at the April planning session.
  - Deacon Frank emphasized that we have to keep in mind that our goal as a community is to spread the gospel. Don’t lose sight of the fact that we are a church, and we have to continue to grow. How do we develop each person/family so that we can continue the faith, reach out to Catholics who don’t practice their faith, and then reach out to people in our community who aren’t Catholic?
  - We need to develop our parish’s plan for evangelization based upon the diocesan plan for evangelization that was produced several years ago. Deacon Frank will look at the phases of that plan and have it for discussion at our next meeting.
  - In the meantime, one of the ways we discussed at the planning session for evangelization was to more successfully evangelize/witness in the church through adult education.
  - Pat proposed we survey the parishioners via Flocknote in June, just simply asking about an interest in adult education and its possible avenues for delivery.
  - One idea Pat brought to the table was an already established program by Ascension Press, which requires only four people for a session and which provides all the materials. It could be just one part of an overall plan for adult education.

- Other ideas for evangelization were proposed, like using the Internet to capture Sunday homilies to draw people in; additional banners to hang in the Narthex, like those already created for holy days, which also highlighted the need for Christmas banners; Cursillo resources that are already established; Knights of Columbus resources; and community events.

New Business:

➤ Ministries:

- Gloria Bolecek, who is involved in the homeless ministries and Caroline Emergency Relief ministry (CERVE), reported that those ministries need more people to help.
- Pat proposed the idea of a Greeter ministry again. Jose had previously mentioned the idea of families serving as greeters at each Mass.
- Pat reported that a family returning to the parish after moving back to the area said they received the updated parish welcome packet, which included a letter from Fr. Alex, and they seemed to appreciate it.
- Debbie suggested that all ministries be invited to provide a one- to two-minute summary of their ministry at each Mass as a follow-up to her PPC summary.
- Anne suggested this advertising of the ministries all summer could culminate in the Ministry Fair that has been previously proposed to take place in the fall. Anne will coordinate.
- Anne proposed the idea of an annual parish fundraiser based off the daily lottery, which would most likely require a gaming license, which if acquired could also give the bingo fundraisers more flexibility.

➤ Next meeting: June 21; 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: Fr. Alex (9:30 p.m.)