

CHRIST THE KING PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes: February 8th, 2016

Present: Fr. Ray, John Ehardt, Bonnie Babcock, Jim Keedy, Vince Balog, Annette Andres, Karen Byrne, Sue Noble, Jen Gorman, Pete VanBerlo

Absent: Monica Gregosky

Sue handed out the Prayer for the New Evangelization and group said it aloud to open meeting.

January minutes and February agenda approved.

FAITH FORMATION

Bonnie discussed the timely topic of “fasting” quoting Matthew 6:16 “When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward.” We often fast/ cleanse for ourselves not for God but that is not proper fasting. Jesus taught that prayer and fasting transform lives. Why should we fast? Self-denial is essential to be a follower of Christ; we must acquire mastery of instincts and freedom over loves, we cannot be ruled by self-indulgence. Fasting hits us where we feel vulnerable and makes us feel in our own flesh dependence on God. Fasting combined with prayer and intercession allows us not to be impeded by digesting food in stomachs but to be concentrating whole-bodily on God. If you pray- fast, if you fast- show mercy. There are several verses both in Old Testament and New Testament to support fasting.

PASTOR’S MOMENT

Fr Ray presented the following topics:

1. As PC members we as leaders need to be active in parish happenings to set good example for fellow parishioners. It is hard to expect others to volunteer and participate in parish activities if we are not.
2. Importance of welcoming visitors and new parishioners. We used to have “welcome parties” but agree that new parishioners can be introduced at monthly KofC breakfasts. Betz will generate list of new CTK members and Karen offered to make contact with them either via phone call or mail letter inviting them to KofC breakfast. New parishioners will not be asked to pay for breakfast. Majority of PC agreed to assist/ rotate duties with Karen throughout year. February 21st is next KofC breakfast. Also along same lines, Pete will talk with Dennis Ritter re: creating list of procedures for adults serving donuts after 10 am Mass; they will be asked to greet new parishioners & visitors and make everyone feel welcome.

3. A parishioner approached Fr Ray about making a practical covered drop off point on main/west entrance; PC agreed this is a nice idea but would be a very large project and likely very expensive due to length of sidewalk leading from drop off point into church.

Fr Ray also informed the group that the garage apartment use for overnight prayer area is still in the works; there was a "near miss" with the rectory boiler while he was away but thankfully Curt and Mike Bobrowski caught and repaired it with no damage done to the rectory. Kevin and Fr Ray are working on Marriage Guidelines to be used for marriage preparation.

OLD BUSINESS

Update from Sue Noble, DFF- Mardi Gras fundraiser dinner was great success with rave reviews and requests to make it an annual event; \$930 was raised to assist high school students and two adult chaperones attending Steubenville conference this summer with additional donations possible from parishioners unable to attend dinner. 75 youth from TC Catholic churches, including 15 from CTK, attended tubing party at TimberLee on Sunday February 7th; Sue will put pictures in bulletin. Next area-wide event for youth is visit to Tendercare nursing home after breakfast at Sparky's Diner. HS retreat rescheduled for weekend of March 18-19 at the Great Wolf Lodge. Consoling the Heart of Jesus bible study was postponed due to lack of attendance at this time; Marie Strong is willing and excited to lead group so she will try again at a less busy time of year and possibly condense down from 10 week commitment. Sue has two high school students and one adult volunteer to assist with Children's Liturgy (CL); she would like more volunteers so adults are able to rotate Sundays to limit commitment. She will continue to look for volunteers; once she has enough she will train them with a book she already has and CL will begin during 10 am Mass for children ages 4- 8 (pre-communion/ confirmation age). Sacrament Prep- Fr. and Kevin met with parents of children attending reconciliation classes; Sacrament of First Reconciliation will occur on Wed Feb 17th with approximately 25 children receiving the sacrament. Wednesday Feb 24th classes for Confirmation/ First Communion will begin; around 20 youth are signed up and Sue will check with Elk Rapids to see if they are joining us. Mass for Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion will be on Sunday May 1st at 3 pm.

Co-Business Managers- Unable to attend, therefore nothing new to report. Deacon Kevin sent an email emphasizing all of the great things happening in our parish.

Parish Evangelization Team- Monica was unable to attend meeting but sent email update as follows "The Corporal Works of Mercy launch on the weekend of 1/30th & 31st was well received by parishioners at each Mass. Deacon Kevin's homily was inspiring and a call to action. Parishioners signed up for all the Corporal Works of Mercy with enthusiasm. The Evangelization Team is preparing a welcoming letter to the parishioners who signed up and will be discussing more follow up ideas at our next meeting." Sue will make Corporal Works of Mercy available online on PDFs (including suggested agencies to contact and actions to carry out each one) as well as give information for each one in bulletin and put sign up roster table at back of church for the upcoming weekends so parishioners who were unable to attend Mass at CTK the

weekend of 30th/31st are still able to sign up and participate. Sue is also planning to arrange for group activities/ ideas for each Work of Mercy.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Update:

Church Signs- Alan Hubbard sent design drafts for new signs outside and hopefully will be able to work on them in the next few months depending on his availability and weather.

Carpet Replacement- Fr and Christopher will meet with Dave from Carpet Galleria to discuss next plan of action and will update PC members.

Rectory Boiler- Curt found water in rectory basement while Fr Ray was away which led to discovery of broken boiler; Curt and Mike Bobrowski were able to get a new one to replace it. Fr and Christopher will inspect rectory to ensure no other issues.

Data Gathering- John will work on this and Fr will talk with ushers to explain why we are keeping weekly attendance data and importance of consistently doing it every weekend. This point will be tabled until June when we have more consistent numbers.

Parish Communication- Revisited best way to pass along relevant information to parishioners- suggested ideas included "My Parish App" and "Flocknote" which allow parishioners to sign up and get updates about events including funerals, special celebrations, snow day cancellations, etc. Sue will look into these options to determine cost of programs and effectiveness. Another option is to use email (parishioners provided current email addresses on update sheets handed out in fall). Vince raised concern that not all funerals are being posted on Facebook page; he will talk with Kevin or Betz about that. Pete will come up with sheet of instructions to give to and work with Betz on re: use of parish Facebook page and new email list.

NEW BUSINESS

PC Faith Formation- Monica will provide for March and Sue will provide for April.

Bishop visit- The Bishop will be here weekend of February 27th & 28th- should we upgrade donuts after Mass by having fruit, few other options?

Directory Update- It has been 3-4 years since last directory; discussion started re: using company vs parishioners who are skilled in photography, publishing to create book. Sue will recommend companies that are reasonably priced and known to do quality job and Fr will mention in his M&M that volunteers are being sought to take this project on.

Jamaican Mission- Jim informed group it is time for Jamaican Mission Fundraising and gave information about this amazing ministry he has taken over from Ed Harris; he would like to collect money to donate to students and schools in Jamaica on March 11th which is next KofC breakfast. Asked for PC to support this as best we can as it is a wonderful cause and truly changes the lives of these children who otherwise may not be able to attend school. He will start advertising for it now in the bulletin.

Garage Sale Fundraiser- Bonnie will begin looking into holding a garage sale in spring or summer to raise money for Religious Ed.

Advertise Fish Fry? Group asked if they felt is necessary to put up flyers in local businesses, etc to advertise our Lenten Fish Fry; group agreed that word of mouth combined with superior quality of our fish fry brings in a steady crowd. Sign out at corner of Acme Rd and 31.

Fr Ray closed meeting in prayer around 8:30 pm

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for March 7th at 6:30 pm.