



**St. John the Baptist Catholic Church  
Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 11, 2017**

**PPC Members Present:** Matt Sinning, Greg Andrews, Judy Kleman Leshner, Jim Kueterman, Mike Stucke, Lois Cox, Adam Grieshop, Teri Iverson, Deacon Chuck Wright, Mary Chafin and Fr. Marc Sherlock.

**Hospitality:** Hospitality for the evening was provided by Mary Chafin.

**Adult Faith Formation:** Deacon Chuck Wright presented the adult faith formation.

Matt Sinning welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending, and the meeting was called to order at 7:18 pm.

**PPC Minutes:** Jim Kueterman made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2017 meeting; seconded by Greg Andrews. Motion carried.

**Ministry Reports:**

**Facility Update:** Mike Drosch reported that the water heater has been replaced, should be good for 10 years or so. Put a TV in room 108 as well as painted. All the rooms have either TVs or projectors, except the three ECP rooms. Upcoming projects include new hardware in the chairs in church, painting below the chair rail in the church, gathering area and sacristy corridor. He will repair the cracks in the drywall behind the altar by trimming them out with wood. As well as mulching the property.

Upgraded Lighting – Changing lighting over to LEDs as it is replaced. All the lights at the exterior doors have been upgraded. Parking lot light poles will be updated. They are all on a photocell. For most of the lighting, the payback will be less than 5 years.

There is a problem with the roof. Half the roof of the church was replaced about 10 years ago as a result of wind damage. Need to explore having the other half of the roof replaced. Depending on how much we do it will be between \$25k and \$40k. The project is on the horizon for sometime this summer. The church was finished in 1998 so the portion that was not replaced is nearly 20 years old.

Fr. Mark advised the council members that the Archdiocese has a policy that any contract with a value over \$25k requires the Archbishop's signature. Fr. Mark cannot sign it.

Patio to be completed by fall.

**Review of Budget:** Kathy Herzog reported on the 2017-2018 parish budget. The largest increase was an increase of 50% in the cost of healthcare, pension and salaries due to eligibility changes including the addition of two full time employees, who were formerly part-time. Each of the department heads were asked to cut costs where they could to help absorb the additional benefit costs.

As a result of these increased costs, we will need to approach the parishioners requesting that they prayerfully consider increasing their donation to the Sunday collection by 7% to cover the budget increase. The Sunday collection was chosen because it is unrestricted. The funds can be distributed throughout all of the parish ministries; it is also our single largest source of income. The request will be made in conjunction with the parish census, which has not been done since Fr. Marc came to St. John's.

Due to a change in Archdiocesan accounting practices the donations and funds that are collected are now listed as income and expense, rather than just an offset on the expense side of the ledger. These changes are evident as increases on the income line items for next year's budget.

We are adding an additional Early Childhood Program (ECP) class in this budget which is reflected in the income and expense lines.

Since the ECP program is a vital ministry of the parish, and to help garner additional financial support, we are considering adding a monthly envelope for the Early Childhood Program (ECP). The new envelopes cannot be included until the new packets are available beginning in November.

There is an increase in the budget to cover the cost of replacing some of the liturgical decorations, especially the Christmas trees.

Mike Stucke made the recommendation to approve the budget as presented, seconded by Jim Keuterman. Fr. Marc approved the budget starting July 1, 2017.

### **Liaison Reports:**

**Evangelization and Catechesis Commission:** Lois Cox reported that the commission has not had a meeting so there is no report.

**Worship Commission Report:** No report.

**Youth Representative Report:** Adam Grieshop reported that a large number of youth have volunteered to help with the Phocus garden. Replacements to lead the garden ministry when Adam leaves for college have been identified.

**D.E.C. Report:** Chuck Wright reported that PSR is completed for 2017 and registration is in process for 2018. Preparing for vacation bible school. Chuck would like assistance in identifying RCIA candidates. Chuck asked for suggestions on additional Coffee with Christ topics.

**Youth Ministry Report:** Teri Iverson thanked Adam for his service on the PPC as well as serving as the chair of the Phocus garden and his years of service with the youth ministry.

Teri reported that Confirmation went very well. Senior Mass and brunch was last weekend. Teri is spending her time on mission trip preparation. There are enough students to have a Serving the Son Camp, which will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August.

She is still looking for leaders for the junior/senior faith sharing groups. We are still waiting for confirmation from 3 Confirmation leaders.

**Pastor's Report:** Fr. Marc reported that this weekend he will be calling for nominations to fill vacant council and commission positions. The lottery will be held on May 28<sup>th</sup> at the 8 am Mass. We need to fill one PPC, one Evangelization and catechesis commission and two adult and two students for the Youth Ministry.

Fr. Marc provided an advance copy of his May article for the Herald concerning Mass attendance. His goal in the article is to give people the facts and encourage/challenge them to attend Mass each Sunday. There was significant discussion about the article and the reduced Mass attendance.

Matt proposed that the survey be completed in September, once the children are back in school. The survey should not be combined with the census to ensure anonymity in the survey responses.

Fr. Marc informed the council that he will be having knee replacement surgery on June 27<sup>th</sup>. There are retired priests scheduled to cover all 3 Masses for the first 4 weeks of his recovery.

Fr. Marc brought up the subject of council officers. Greg Andrews will be stepping down from his position as Vice-Chairperson. Matt has agreed to remain Chairperson for an additional 1 year term. Judy Kleman Leshar volunteered to be Vice-Chairperson for the remainder of her term, unanimously approved.

**Round Robin:** No discussion items.

**Ministry Report for Next Meeting:**

- Hispanic Ministry
- Festival – John Miller

Jim Kueterman will provide hospitality for the September meeting, Matt Sinning will present Adult Faith Formation, and Mike Stucke will provide the Closing Prayer of Gratitude.

Fr. Marc took time to thank the members of the council for their service to the parish. He also asked for prayers for his upcoming surgery.

Matt Sinning closed the meeting with a Prayer of Gratitude.

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, September 14, 2017

**Respectfully Submitted:**

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/s/

Mary H. Chafin, Recording Secretary