

St. Michael Parish Pastoral Council
May 8, 2017 minutes

Members present: Fr. Marty, Deacon Ed, John Companik, Lee Ann Egan, David Gray, Linda Hansen, Lynda Hemmerling, Alice Lewinski, Ted Markiewicz, Mike Morley, Dan Price, Gib Wieser

Additional guests present: Linda Kinzer, Joe Tomaszewski, Amy Wegrzyn

Fr. Marty opened the meeting by reading from a sermon by St. Peter Chrysologus and leading the council in an opening prayer. Current council members introduced themselves to Linda, Joe and Amy, who will join Jim Prasopolous as new members whose terms expire in June 2020. Lee Ann, Linda, Alice and Gib have terms that will expire in June 2018. Lynn, Dan, David and John have terms that will expire in June 2019.

The synod is fast approaching, and Fr. Marty is hoping to get at least 40 people from the parish to fill a bus he has reserved for the closing Mass on June 4th. The bus will leave the parish at 12:45 PM and head to the Genesis Center for a 2:00 PM Mass which will be followed by a Eucharistic procession to Holy Angels Cathedral, which will be the site of Benediction and fellowship. The bus is slated to return to St. Michael at approximately 6:00 PM. A novena preceding the synod will be held throughout the diocese including one evening at St. Michael.

John reported on a meeting he and Lynn had with a parishioner who was concerned about the types of social events being held on parish grounds. The trio discussed various ideas and John and Lynn told the parishioner that a major reason for having these events is to do soft evangelization which will make people, especially young families, more apt to become involved in the parish and school. John plans to have one more meeting with the parishioner, and the council felt that determining a list of marketing goals would be helpful not only for improving this situation but also for the parish as a whole since a new communications coordinator will be hired shortly. To that end, Mike and Ted will meet with Fr. Marty and others to interview candidates for that position later in May.

Fr. Marty updated the council on the Our Lasting Legacy campaign and plans to contact the diocese shortly to request funds to begin the project next spring. Current projections have the parish collecting the required 2/3 of the money to begin construction by October, and the council discussed different ways the continuation committee can encourage parishioners to get involved in the cause. One possible way is to create a video which clearly explains the impact of the project on the church's roof, walls and other areas.

Dan has spent time working with diocesan officials on revising the organizational assessment and should have the revisions complete by mid-May. Incoming council members were briefed on what has transpired since January, and Fr. Marty updated all present on the school's current and future situations.

Finally, council members discussed meeting dates for the 2017-18 year, during which they will be joined by soon-to-be Fr. Gregory Bim-Merle, who will join the parish after his ordination on May 20th. By the time of the first meeting of next year, though, the parish will be sans Fr. Ben Ross, who was excused from tonight's meeting so that he could attend his first finance committee meeting at St. Bridget in Hobart, where he will become administrator as of July 1st. Council members thanked departing members Ted, Mike and Lynda for their years of service before closing the meeting by praying the Hail Mary. The council's next formal meeting will be in August.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Cox