

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES – Nov. 7, 2018

Meeting was held in the church lower level.

Members Present: Jo Coon, Deb Cuddy, Abby Geisler, Derek Hennig, Kathy Hussey, Bernie Jackson, Mindi O'Rourke, Christina Yousaf, Deacon Jeff Beals, and Fr. Hyland.

Opening Faith Reflection offered by Jo Coon.

Fr. Hyland's Report:

- October Mass Attendance – Fr. Hyland distributed a graph of October Mass attendance between the years 2007-2018. The average attendance is about 60% of the 2009 attendance; down 17% from 2016. Discussion was had on trends occurring in Charleston and how to increase church membership. Newman Masses are not included in the count.
- Renovation – plaster work will begin on the west wall of the church the week of Nov. 26-30. Walls will also be painted. Church services will be at Newman at the same time schedule.
- Adult Catechesis – Sunday Night Scholars Oct. 28 had 26 people in attendance; Nov. 2 had 21 people in attendance. Attendees gave positive feedback on the presentations.
- Christmas Mass Schedule is as follows:
 - * Dec. 24, 5:00 pm @ St. Charles
 - * Dec. 24, 8:00 pm @ Newman
 - * Dec. 25, 12:00 am @ St. Charles (Midnight Mass)
 - * Dec. 25, 8:30 am @ St. Charles
- Thanksgiving Day Mass is Nov. 22 @ 9:00 am @ St. Charles
- Immaculate Conception Masses, Dec. 7, 5:00 pm at Newman; Dec. 8, 8:30 am at St. Charles. Sunday Mass schedule – First Sunday of Advent is the same schedule.
- Mary Mother of God – Dec. 31, 6:00 pm and Jan. 1, 8:30 am – both Masses at St. Charles.

Deacon Jeff Beal's Report:

- RCIA – new inquiry is beginning. One person inquired.
- Religious Education – Working on recruiting substitute teachers for Religious Education.
- Safe Environment training completed.
- Diocese is changing vendor for the ACRE test distributed to 5th and 8th grades this year.
- Working on finishing background checks.
- The Giving Tree is getting started and will be put out after Masses.
- Ministry Fair – need to establish date and review the ministry handbook that was updated last year.

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Youth Report:

- Spiritual – High School Bible Study and Youth Mass Oct. 14th.
- Religious Education has 24 high schoolers attending.
- Service – SCW Holiday Bazaar, EIU parade with Camp New Hope, Decorate Camp New Hope for Christmas.
- Fun – Ropes course in Carlinville, Bike Ride.
- Fundraising – Soup Supper in October and Pancake Breakfast, Dec. 2nd.

Old Business:

- Advent Mission – Dec. 9, 10, 11. Discussion held on details of hosting the reception the final night by Council.
- Parish picnic – successful; attendance down due to inclement weather.
- Epiphany Dinner – Sunday, Jan. 6th at 12:30 pm. Parish Council will coordinate the event. Sign-up sheets will be put up in the next few weeks. Discussion held on decorations, pot luck dinner, and entertainment.
- St. Charles Feast Day – Sunday, Nov. 5th. Well attended. Event needs to be re-evaluated.

New Business:

- Pastoral Council Membership – review of members stepping down. Need new members for the Council.

Closing Prayer was offered by Fr. Hyland.

Faith Reflection Assignment: N/A

Next meeting: December 5 @ 5:30 pm, Christmas Party at Deb Cuddy's house.

Meeting minutes submitted by:

Jo Coon, Pastoral Council Secretary