

Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council Meeting May 17, 2018
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. after Evening Prayer at the Holy Redeemer Rectory. There was one correction to the minutes of the meeting February 8, 2018 to correct the spelling of Chris Schmelzner's last name on page 4.

Present: Msgr. Kevin Holmes, Deacon Ray Lukesic, Marc Laudonio, Linda Abelman, Jayne Bischoff, Diane Budyak, Paul Kachelmeier, and Tracey Reitz.

I. Discussion of Role of Pastoral Council within the Cathedral Parish

Tracey said that to continue the discussion from the last pastoral council meeting she wanted us to reflect on the role of the Pastoral Council, to reflect on steps moving forward.

Msgr. said that he thinks the best work of a pastoral council is the 30,000 foot view that looks at the whole role of the parish and evaluates what we are doing, what we are not doing, and why, and what we maybe should be doing. It's those things we don't do day to day as we are doing our regular tasks at the parish. It's not organizing the big events, but the big picture. He said if we for instance reflect on the hospitality team and program, we 1) identified this as a need; 2) and formed a team to pursue it. This is one possible form that the work of the pastoral council can take.

He said the work of the pastoral council can include anything that is part of the pastoral program, and not not related to finances and the physical plant. This includes parish life, parish gatherings, religious education, and RCIA.

Marc said that for instance looking at the staff roles and jobs, Deacon Ray will be retiring soon, and we will have two new deacons. He said that the point of a parish is to make disciples, and to equip them to be disciples and to share their faith.

Msgr. said it includes discussion of the Sacraments, and when we have masses too. The parish website shows this for the parish he said. Things can come up in the Pastoral Council that might not occur to him he said, in what he is doing being so involved in the parish.

Msgr. said the parish mission is to Know, to Love, and to Serve God. To Know God would be formation and education opportunities, to Love God is the Sacramental life of the parish, and to Serve God would be outreach and charitable work.

He said his original thought in forming the Pastoral Council was to have parishioners who are very involved in the parish be on it. It is also important to have parishioners who are not that involved but are regular members. This relates to number 2 on the agenda forming a prayer community.

Tracey said we talked about this at the Hospitality Team meeting, and asking members of the

parish questions about pastoral needs and hospitality needs.

Msgr. said he would be more interested in hearing from people about what they would like to do, rather than what they'd like to have done for them.

Jayne said that people can share what their gifts are first, and then if they are interested in using their gifts to help out the parish.

Paul said that the Called and Gifted program is about discerning our gifts, and especially the ones we are called to share with others.

Msgr. said the parish has asked for people to say what they'd like to do to help the parish, but following up on it is a major challenge.

Linda said that there are usually subcategories like prayer groups, and hospitality teams.

Msgr. said the Hospitality Team could be a good place to start, and these are things we want to be moving on soon. He said a challenge with written surveys is sometimes people pick everything. Another way is through interviews he said, and with a little connection you can get a feel for what they want to do.

Tracey said that the members of the Hospitality Team joined through word of mouth.

Diane said that talking to people is a good idea she thought too.

Linda said we can invite people and ask what area they want to serve in.

Tracey said that this was something the Hospitality Team wanted to do was to call new parishioners and see how they might want to be involved in the parish.

Linda said she could do this and make the calls and invite them.

Marc said that he feels like we have to go back to basics, we should lead with how can we help you grow in your faith and be involved in the parish, and then how can you help serve in the parish.

Msgr. said this could be the next project of the Pastoral Council to go through our process of how we contact people who are new to the parish.

Diane said by talking to them then you get to know more about them, and get to know them better, and identify their needs early on.

Jayne said that part of the discussion is identifying some of these processes in the parish tonight, and to first look at them before starting to do things.

Msgr. said if we do want to look at the process for joining the parish and other processes, getting a page menu on the parish website would be good. For the next meeting he said we can get screenshots of all of the submenus on the parish website. We should bring screenshots we print out to the next meeting.

II. Formation of a prayer/community focused group within the parish?

Tracey said that forming a more prayer focused group was brought up by the Hospitality Team. This would be a group that gets together and prays for the needs of the parish.

Deacon Ray said that the prayer team in the parish individually prays intercessory prayers for fellow parishioners.

III. New Diaconate roles within the Parish

Marc said that on the topic of a prayer/community focused group Deacon Ray will be retiring, and Deacon Chris and in a few more years Deacon Todd are ready and willing to be involved in the parish. He said they are both very good, and willing and able teachers in Catechesis.

Marc said he thought what do we have to invite them into after RCIA, but it would be great if we could form a network of small groups or a small group community like St. John Paul II wanted. He could be more involved in this and forming and supporting small groups. He said that when he saw people talking about a prayer group and community he got excited about what we could do. He said that The Evangelical Catholic could help us do this. He said that Msgr. and Deacon Ray and Amber have been talking about this.

Msgr. said he would like to share the results of discussion amongst the staff for how to re-organize their responsibilities and get our input.

Msgr. said that the procedure that the Evangelical Catholic people will propose will be a discipleship training group. A first group will be formed with the idea that the people who are in this group will be able to form their own group. There could be a lot of different categories of groups. He said that there would be quite a significant commitment by the parish to this with the Evangelical Catholic. This follows Jesus' ministry he said. He usually met with groups and especially the twelve. He asked Marc how big he thought this group would be.

Marc said about 10 to 12 people.

Paul said that Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish has started training for small groups like this too, and is also working with the Evangelical Catholic.

Msgr. said he thought it would be good if they were from different areas or active in different things in the parish, that would help to propagate it. He said he thought it probably should be other people in the parish than the Pastoral Council.

Jayne said that she thought we should discuss how people in the parish can request prayers. She said that she also likes Marc's idea about his being more involved in the formation of small groups in the parish.

Msgr. said that if you follow the Hospitality Team model, you could say the Pastoral Council could form a group to do this.

Marc said that Jayne could head up or spearhead a prayer team.

Jayne said we should begin to work on a draft of processes or concepts to do this, and work with Chris Schmelzer and Marc on it.

Marc said that they could come together for a monthly holy hour, and then spend time to pray for the needs for the parish.

IV. Call for new membership, leadership elections

Tracey said that we can look at new members for the Pastoral Council, and some other people who might be a candidate for the Pastoral Council.

Paul mentioned Kurt Bullis, and Patrick Sippy, and Lily Durbin.

Msgr. mentioned Paul and Anna Blaney.

V. Next Meeting – August 9, 2018.

Tracey said the next meeting is August 9, 2018.

Msgr. said that we could invite some people who we think might be interested in the Pastoral Council to the meeting.

Paul said he can type up the meeting minutes right away and get them to Tracey to review, and then maybe she can make a list of action items and next steps that we discussed, and that we want to work on.

The group prayer a Hail Mary.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.