

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Terry Callahan

Members Present: Fr. Brendan, Terry Callahan, Lesley Grant, Estrella Villafranca-Ruiz, Carol Lavigne, Bob Smart, Maria Mendoza-Tellez, Patrick Stoll, Karen Ekizian, Shawn Patrick, Daniel Eckl, Milton Tobar and, Gary Tucker.

Member Absent: Marc Mastromonico

❖ **Faith Sharing:** Maria

❖ **Approved September minutes**

❖ **Boots feedback** – Anything since last meeting:

- It was noted that there are several families that don't attend mass or participate and only bring their kids to school. When asked why, they said it was because they were too busy and didn't have the time. To try and close that gap the parish is trying to create outreach and fundraising events for both the church and the school to do together, for example the FAM walk and movie night.
- 600 people livestreamed on Facebook for the first Catholic 101 class.
- There are still some parishioners that are upset about the renovation of the church. We discussed the fact that all of the information about why it was done, the details of the funds, and the progress of the renovation were always posted on the weekly bulletin, website, and the slides before mass. This raised the questions: Why are parishioners not reading the bulletin or going to the website? How can we better relay information? It's a shared responsibility from both sides; Father needs to keep repeating the information and parishioners need to listen and use the different means of communication to look for the answers.
 - Action item: Find out how far back bulletins are posted on the web and the dates of the bulletins in reference to the renovations.

❖ **Pastor's comments**

○ Joy & Gratitude – Stewardship:

1. Outreach updates –

- Fr. Brendan's letter in September 25, 2016 bulletin talked about the Outreach Council in detail.
- Teamed up with Family Assistance Ministries (FAM) and on Friday's at San Felipe to serve hundreds of people. In the next couple of months there will be a caseworker at Saint Edwards as well. The goal is to get the people out of the situation they are in and not just helping them through it.
- Gave \$20k to Family Assistance Ministries. They purchased temporary housing for the homeless with 11 units inside, one of which St Edwards will remodel and will be named Saint Edwards Hall.
- More of the outreach is moving out of Saint Edwards Church because there aren't enough people coming for help, so we are moving to where the help is needed.
- Research has been done as to how much money has been given in the past and to whom. We know half a million dollars are given to charity every year in different ways. With the data we can now decide who and how to help in the future.
- Outreach is not only money but hands, volunteer work.
 - Had a surplus of volunteers for FAM
- Brainstormed possibilities for parents and their kids to volunteer on a regular basis, maybe team up with the school.

2. October 2, 2016 Breakfast for New Parishioners:

- It went really well. New parishioners felt welcomed and liked the idea of Father to come bless their home. We had two families move in from Ireland. Introduced them to different ministries for whenever they are ready.

- A House of Prayer/A House of the Poor:
 1. Ideas for next big giving goal/recipient:
 - Goal is to adopt a parish/community that has nothing and is in great need and then to make a 10-12 year commitment.
 - A detailed timeline with a start and end date would be developed.
 - Possible locations:
 - Mexico, since it will allow families to travel there.
 - Domestic locations
 - Action Item: Research possible local areas to help out and adopt.
 2. 9/15/16 Alzheimer's Service: It's always great to have a mass for the people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.
- Integration updates:
 1. Chapel updates-parking will be available on a month to month basis.
 2. Knight Hall – last weekend invited parishioners to see the remodeled kitchen.
 - It was requested that the Jesus figure be placed back on the cross which is in Knight Hall.

❖ **Parish Assembly discussion:**

- A Parish Assembly meeting will add transparency and enhance communication with the parishioners. The leadership ministry meeting could be used as a model for the assembly meeting.
- At the Assembly (“State of the Church Meeting”) we could have tables set up from each ministry for questions and answers.
- Keep it short and to the point. Possibly have Father Brendan give an update on Saint Edwards's current statistics, for example, how many baptisms, enrolled members, the budget, the strategic vision of the church etc. and then have a Q&A time or direct them to the ministry tables.
- How would they be informed: Oral announcements 4 weeks before followed by bulletin announcement and posting on the website.
- How often: make it a regular, once a year, meeting so that parishioners know when to expect the meeting.
- When, is there an opportune time? Saturday morning in January.
- Stream (or StedCast) the meeting for those that can't attend.

❖ **Parish Census discussion:**

- It is important to conduct a census to know how many families are in the parish so that we can better customize services for our specific population, modify how we evangelize, and true up our numbers for budget calculations, demographics, etc.
- We are starting to inform people that in order to get baptized or married, they don't need to register with the parish, BUT if they do plan on coming back we would like to know. We need an accurate count of who is here and active.
- Steps - Phase 1:
 1. Cards in pews: Cards will ask for basic information like head of the household name, address, number in household and ages, email, phone, and how they would like to be contacted.
 - Give time during mass to fill out and turn in the cards on the spot.
 - Maybe have a table outside for those who need help filling out the cards.
 - It will be done over a month.
 2. Send letters to those who are on the rolls but did not complete cards.
 3. Phone calls and/or visits if still no response.
- Phase 2: Based on their communication preference (email, mail) send a more detailed anonymous questionnaire to gather data like:
 1. Are you still a parishioner?
 2. What ministry are you interested in?
 3. What do you value the most about this parish?

4. How often do you come to church?
 5. Do you attend mass only on the major holidays?
 6. Would you like to volunteer, how many hours?
 7. Are there opportunities you would like to explore and participate in?
 8. What services do you need?
 9. I would come to church more often if _____.
- PC role in census: Give announcement why it's important and what the data will be used for.
 - A data entry committee will need to be formed for the census.
 - Provide options for parishioners to opt in to get emails, text messages, on the church weekly updates. It will also enhance communication with parishioners.

❖ **Closing prayer:** Maria

Respectfully submitted by Maria Mendoza-Tellez