

**Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**  
**September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Terry Callahan

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

**Member Absent:** Gary Tucker

**Faith Sharing:** Lesley

**Housekeeping:** Terry will take photos of new members at the next meeting. Roster & contacts approved.

**Pastor's Comments:** Fr. Brendan shared the importance of being on the PC and thanked all members for their service. The PC is the top council in that everything in the Parish flows from this council.

**Foundation Document:** The purpose of the PC is to assist Fr. Brendan and to advise him on the faith life of the Parish. He wants us to help people feel the love that God has for them. As a council how do we serve the people who aren't here? We need to go out and make new disciples.

- Fr. Brendan wants to spend time in the second part of the year finding effective ways to gather input and ideas from the Parish community. Maybe assigning PC members to ministries in the church, school and chapel as a way to reach out to see if there is anything they want to discuss.
- We want to keep our focus on our three Parish goals:
  1. **A House of Prayer** – as individuals, families and a parish growing in our life of prayer.
  2. **A House of Poor** - by being a place of refuge for everyone.
  3. **Stewardship** by helping everyone recognize that everything we have is a gift from God.
- Integration –We are a Parish and not a church with a chapel and a school.
- We discussed “The PC does hold a Parish Assembly at least every other year.” It has been many years since a Parish Assembly has taken place. The following ideas were shared:
  1. Make it open to parish participation.
  2. Should it be held monthly, quarterly, bi-annually or annually?
  3. Making the Ministry Breakfast a Parish Assembly just serving coffee and donuts.
- **Confidentiality:** The PC needs to be a safe place for sharing. All opinions, openness, honesty and confidentiality are important.
- **Consensus (Minutes):** Minutes need to be sent out in a timely manner. Please respond with fast feedback making sure all details have been accurately covered to go into the monthly bulletin. Do we want to add to the bulletin what will be on the agenda at our next PC meeting?
- **Boots on the Ground:** We are Fr. Brendan's ears in the Parish; please don't wait until the next meeting to share what you hear with him.  
Excitement and good feedback over the renovations of Knight Hall – it is looking good!
- **Parish Goals for 2016/17 - A House of Prayer/A House of Poor**  
900+ parishioners receiving the daily text messages  
Family Faith Formation for the whole family  
Different programs on prayer throughout the year  
Videos shown at Sunday masses on how parishioners pray

### **A Life of Joy and Gratitude - Stewardship**

- **Stewardship Conference:** at OLF on October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7.30-4.30. Please attend if you can!

- **Outreach Ministry Update** – Bob Smart

The purpose of Outreach Ministry is to help Fr. Brendan meaningfully direct the giving and use of parish resources such as rooms, media on the screens, bulletin announcements, tables outside, baskets.

Fr. Brendan wants to minimize the amount of asking while not minimizing the amount of giving that we do. We want to increase the amount of giving but don't want to be so commercial.

An organization now fills out paperwork, it is submitted to the Parish and sent to the Outreach Ministry for discussion, Outreach advises Fr. Brendan on application and a decision is made.

Outreach supports 35-40 charitable causes annually, donating 23% of the parish budget.

\$600,000 was given out in the 2015/16 fiscal years to local, national and international beneficiaries including Obria, Isaiah House, Tijuana Ministry, Corazon, Uganda and PSA.

- The Parish needs to define our budget this year on what we want our giving to be.  
How much do we want to give? How do we want to spread our funds? How much will be left?  
We need to decide where our money will go in the future, locally, nationally and internationally?

The Outreach Ministry will meet with the Finance Committee to get their ideas and feedback.

- **Finance Council Depreciation Update:** We want to make sure we are not stockpiling our money.  
The balance sheet shows \$2M+ in savings but it all has a purpose. Ex. air-conditioning, carpets.
- **Children's Envelopes:** We are forming new stewards out of our Parish School children asking them to give themselves to God at mass by sharing something that they did for others.

### **A House of Prayer and A House of the Poor**

- **FAM at San Felipe de Jesus:** Every Friday St. Edward's volunteers' hand out food to the needy & homeless in the community. Case Workers help people who are struggling by asking why they are there and how we can help them get out of the cycle they are in.
- **Corazon:** 50 Parishioners are going down to Tijuana by bus on September 24<sup>th</sup> to build a house.
- **Peru:** Ad in the bulletin inviting parishioners to go to Peru for a week from Dec 26<sup>th</sup> to Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> with the JSerra High School Peru missionary group. Fr. Brendan is going with 5 staff members.
- **Alzheimer's Worship Service:** Interfaith mass for Alzheimer's patients, families and caregivers on September 15<sup>th</sup> at St. Edwards.
- **September 11<sup>th</sup> Mass:** There will be a blessing for all First Responders at Sunday's masses.

### **Integration Goes Forward (One Parish: Church, Chapel & School)**

- **August 20<sup>th</sup> – Parish Ministry Breakfast:** Great event and well attended
- **SFJ Parking:** The city wants to sell the parking lot next to SFJ leaving limited parking for SFJ.
- **School Updates:** The school has new grass on the field, new flooring, painting and some classrooms were moved.

- **Catholic Rate:** The parish subsidizes the Parish School by \$500,000.00 a year from the Sunday collections and, the Parish also gives \$200,000.00 annually for Parish School scholarships. Parish School families are aware that they benefit from a discounted tuition rate from the Parish subsidy, yet that doesn't motivate many of those families to donate to support the church. Our Parish School families should realize that the fundraisers they support are a gift - not a donation. To give nothing to the church is unjust.
- **SFJ Faith Formation:** Sr. Sue has resigned. Karina has taken over the Religious Ed. Fr. Armando and volunteers will help with Faith Formation. Karina is bi-lingual and talks with the Hispanic parents, which is a big step forward in being one parish working together in Faith Formation.
- **New Parishioner Process:** The Parish goal is to do an easy census on determining how many people are registered at St. Edwards. The only way to figure it out at present is to look at records of parishioners who are enrolled with either Parish Pay, mass envelopes or if they volunteer.

A Three Phase Process was suggested:

1. Cards placed in the pews for parishioners to fill out.
2. Letters sent to parishioners who have not filled out the card to ask if they are still here.
3. Call or visit the parishioners who have done neither of the above.

The information gathered would be entered after each phase, which will update our records and give us a better idea of the number of registered parishioners.

What should the Pastoral Council's role be in the census?

The Parish will be changing the registration form after many years, just asking for basic info.

In October attendance is counted at all Sunday masses, averaged and sent to the Diocese.

- **New Parishioner Breakfast:** Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Knight Hall. PC Members may be asked to attend and help if you can!
- **Gloria Dei:** The Catholic & Lutheran church both signed documents recently stating that both Faiths agree with the 95 points in the "95 Theses of Luther" which celebrates its 500<sup>th</sup> commemoration in October.

Fr. Brendan got together with Pastor David to discuss our churches doing a few things together such as the June Corazon trip, also something in our faith during the year, possibly Holy Week.

- **Round Table:** Dan Eckl mentioned that Faith Formation is always looking for volunteers for Confirmation. They need help with teaching the teens through the 2-year class on Sundays.

**Closing prayer provided by Lesley**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lesley Grant.