

St. Joseph the Worker Cluster Pastoral Council Minutes - Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Present: Damien Matt & Mary Hemeseth from St. Peter's Parish, Chris Grapes & Bonnie Patrick from Holy Name Parish, Kurt Wood from St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Jerad Trainor and Dee Youngblut of Immaculate Conception Parish, Fr. Jim Brockman, & Cindy Jacob (Recorder).

Absent: Scott Michelson of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, & Beth Schellhorn from Faith Formation Commission.

I. Fr. Jim opened the meeting with prayer.

II. Approval of Agenda: Kurt Wood motioned to approve the agenda and Damien Matt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes: Dee Youngblut motioned to approve the minutes and Mary Hemeseth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. Finance Council Report / Approval of 2016 – 2017 Budget. Fr. Jim explained the Cluster Financial Report. The Cluster checking account balance is around \$5,000 due to having just paid the medical insurance premium for the priests (\$18,800). Parishes owe about \$8,000 to the Cluster for Faith Formation expenses such as First Communion, Confirmation, Catechists' Dinner and gifts, etc. This money will be billed to each parish proportionally and paid back to the Cluster by the end of the fiscal year. \$2,500 of the balance belongs to NCYC (left over from their trip). The Cluster will finish the year with between \$15,000 and \$20,000. The new budget was approved. It's about \$10,000 higher due to a tech support increase (web page) and the integration of Faith Formation expenses. Kurt Wood motioned to approve the budget and Bonnie Patrick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

V. Faith Formation Report: Faith Formation classes are winding down for the year. Sunday, May 1st was Cluster First Communion held at St. Francis of Assisi (first year for it to be cluster wide). It went really well, but there was a little bit of tension due to it being a first time cluster event. Sunday, May 8th will be May crowing at each parish. A Catechist Dinner was held Sunday, May 17th at Gus & Tony's in West Union - there was a greater turn out than last year. The Cluster is looking at a hybrid, 6 to 8 week course for individuals that are interested in becoming Catholic who are already baptized. The course will be an intro to Catholic culture, belief, & thought. There was discussion that there needs to be more out about RCIA and that the names of people becoming Catholic should be promoted more within their parishes. Fr. also talked about the Todd Becker Foundation presentation and explained that there was a good message from the presentation. All the same, he was a little concerned about the youth being asked for personal information without parental consent. He has addressed his concerns with the Foundation and representatives from the NFV School District.

VI. Liturgy: In March the Liturgy Committee was busy gearing up for Easter and in April they discussed how everything went. Fr. talked about teaming up with the Methodist Church for Tenebrae next year. Those who went on the pilgrimage to Dubuque during Lent had nothing but good things to say about the trip. They had lunch at Breitbach's in Balltown, went to the Cathedral in Dubuque and to the Basilica in Dyersville for Mass.

VII. Social Justice: It was reported that there wasn't a meeting.

VII. Old Business:

A. Fr. Jim's Evaluation – Evaluation survey sheets were given out at the beginning of the year and approximately 75 were returned. The evaluation sheets results were calculated by Fr. and Chris Grapes. The final summary will be placed at the back of our churches for people to review. Fr. Jim intends to take the evaluation to the Priest Council in hopes that other priests will do evaluations as he feels they are important. On the whole he found it to be a positive experience and looks forward to the good things it will bring.

B. Year of the Mercy: As of this time nothing is scheduled.

IX. New Business:

A. Parish Elections: Parish Elections will be held in late May. This year we'll have a Sunday where parishioners in each parish can nominate people for office at Mass by filling out a card. Then, those nominated will be called to see if they

will accept the nomination to run. The following weekend an election will take place between those who accepted the nomination. Fr. shared of those in each parish whose terms would be ending this year. This will all be discussed at each parish's Finance Council meeting.

B. Cluster Evaluation – It was said that the bi-laws of the Cluster should be put on the Web page for people to be able to read.

C. Parish Budget – At each May Parish Finance Meeting budgets will be created for the next fiscal year.

D. Cluster Mission: St. Francis of Assisi will be in charge of the next year's Lenten mission. They will do something different than Agnes Dei as Immaculate Conception and Holy Name have brought them for the last two year.

Kurt Wood motioned to adjourn the meeting and Damien Matt seconded the motion. The meeting closed at 8:30 pm with a Hail Mary.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 28th, 7:00 pm at St. Peter's.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Jacob