

OUR LADY OF HOPE PASTORAL COUNCIL Minutes –October 8, 2015

Present: Fr. Paul Sullivan, S.J., Cindy Russell (Acting Chair), David Reese, Andy Litcher, Sr. Claire Pouliot, Mike Pizzo, Bill Burke

Excused: Kristen Connelly, Mary Cafazzo

Opening Prayer: Fr. Paul Sullivan, S.J. led the group in opening prayer

Minutes –September minutes were approved & accepted

Updates:

- Bill & Ursula Slavick will do a presentation on the Haiti Project to our parishioners Tuesday, October 20th @ St. Pius X.
- The Parish Financial Report was started at the Masses last week & will finish this weekend.
- Weekly Offertory 1st Collection is not meeting goal. We are running a weekly deficit.
- The money received from the sale of St. Patrick's will not carry the parish. There are a number of restrictions placed on this money by the Diocese as to how it can be used.
- St. Brigid is doing good.
- Evening Prayer in the Celtic Tradition was moderately attended and well received as a first time event for this Parish.
- There were about 40 who attended the Liturgical Ministry Training and Formation Day
- There will be an Ignatian guided retreat starting October 27 for 4 weeks plus an intro Session. The times will be on Tuesday AM (9:45) @ St. Pius X and 7PM @ Cheverus High School Chapel.

Current proposals – 1) Fr. Sullivan, S.J. questioned the attendance at the Christmas Midnight Mass. Should this time be changed to 9 or 10PM. Asked the Council for their thoughts on this

2) Friday AM Mass @ St. Joseph – When there is no school Mass, there will be no Mass @ St. Joseph as well. The Council also discussed the safety factor of having Masses in the winter when school was cancelled due to bad weather. Council decided that there would not be weekly Mass on days when Portland calls off school due to bad weather.

3) There was a discussion regarding the 8AM Mass @ St. Joseph. Is the attendance enough to Maintain having the Mass every Saturday? The Council is to think about it.

Reflections/Questions:

- Characteristics of a Parish Pastoral council: Reading the scriptures & listening to what is being said; Listening & Reflecting on needs of our Parish; making changes – listen, reflect before answering. Spiritual growth wanted @ school as voiced by the teachers; Where do you think God is with our Parish?; What is really central to this parish & what ties it all together – Parish to school, school to parish.

Sr. Claire Pouliot's Mission Statement was then Read with a short time for reflection.

Pastoral – listen, reflect on issues for parish.

? Where do we go from here? Where is God leading us individually & then collectively & as a parish? Fr. Sullivan, S.J. asked each Council Member to think about these questions until the next meeting. Write down the thoughts that you have regarding these questions during this month. The Book of Kings is a good guidance. Silence on a daily basis, reflect.

What/Why Are We Here.

Next Meeting: 2nd Thursday of the month – **November 12th @ 7PM** in the Parish Office Rectory

Closing Prayer: All, led by Fr. Paul Sullivan, S.J.

Respectfully submitted, Linda McCormack