

Saints Mary and Joseph Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2017

Council Members Present: Fr. Tom, Fr. Bill, Fr. Al, Deacon Jay Cormier, Steve Barretto, Deb Carney, Kristen Klecan, Jess Miller, Dawn Pavlini, Lisa Ricci, Debbie Sarnie, Tina Doherty, Chris Raymond, Therese Vallario

Council Members Not Present: Daniela Gomez

Guest: Sue Levesque

Call to Order: 7:17PM

Opening Prayer: Fr. Tom

Father Tom's Pastor Report:

Improvements to Campuses: The overgrown bushes in front of the MQP church and at the walkway to the Rectory have been removed. Beautiful perennials and annuals have been placed at the front of MQP as well as along the side as you enter into the office area. Almost all of this work (including the new plantings) was performed and subsidized by volunteers, with very little cost to the parish. The ramp has been restored and resealed at the St. Joseph campus, and the side entrances of the St. Joseph Church have been painted as well.

34 Main Street (aka the yellow house): The property was originally listed at the suggested price point of the very experienced listing realtor. Despite being in a seller's market, and after dozens of viewings with no legitimate offers, the price was significantly reduced, and a family is interested. There is a purchase and sale agreement in process.

Music Director: The parish is in need of a Music Director. Lisa Chase Boucher, a knowledgeable music consultant, will be meeting with Fr. Tom and also observing the different types of music at the masses to assist in an advisory role in filling this position.

Music Ministry: Kasia (MQP 4:00 Saturday Cantor) is now cantoring at the MQP 9:30 mass for the next two months or so. She will be attempting to bring a more contemporary platform to the music at this mass celebration. Katie Kamara will be joining the music ministry at the 6:30 pm mass at St. Joseph as an additional vocalist.

Multi-Cultural Representative: Daniela Gomez has resigned from this one-year appointed position due to personal and professional scheduling conflicts. It is hoped that she will return again at some point in the future.

Old Business Updates:

Promoting our Parish Ministries: Kay Barretto has agreed to spearhead this effort. A two sided insert will be placed (monthly) into the bulletin highlighting four parish ministries at a time. This is an effort to evoke interest and highlight the various ministries that our Parish has to offer.

LED Lights at MQP: Standard Electric (thanks to parishioner Tom Willis) has greatly reduced the price of the light bulbs. The Knights of Columbus have purchased them for the parish, and it is hoped that volunteers will be able to install the bulbs in early Nov.

Computers for both Campuses: A Mac Book Pro that had been owned by Kyle was purchased for use at the MQP campus. This computer contains the software for the

wireless mixer and video presentation program at MQP. Steve is looking into purchasing a used Mac Book Pro/Air for St. Joe's for the 11:00 AM celebration.

Welcoming Community Subcommittee: Baskets have been placed at both campuses in the vestibules. The baskets contain handmade Rosaries and a Welcome Prayer for those who may be visiting. Having a welcome dinner for newly registered parishioners was discussed. The committee members will meet with Kay Barretto to also design a Welcome Booklet. This will be based on a model from St. Michael Parish in North Andover, MA.

Building a Community/Social Subcommittee: On December 9th from 10:00 am-4:00 pm, babysitting will be offered at MQP for children so that parents may have the day to Christmas shop (limited to 50 children). Lunch, movies and crafts will be provided. It was also suggested that a Patriots game viewing take place on a Sunday in the future. Attendees could bring appetizers, etc. Steve will inquire of the town if BYOB is allowed.

Embracing Hope Subcommittee: Blessing of the Stuffedies/Comfort Items will take place on Saturday, October 28th at the MQP Campus. Kids Church has received a Chrome Book and Smart Television. These items were graciously donated and the donors wish to remain anonymous.

[New Business:](#)

Painting of Interior of St. Joseph Church: The liturgy committee met and discussed painting the interior of St. Joseph church two shades of blue (a light blue on the side walls and a darker blue to accent the Sanctuary. Shades of green were also suggested and samples are being obtained and will be discussed. A suggestion was made to have the Liturgy Committee consult with an interior designer unaffiliated with the parish that has experience with church design. Parishioners will be notified of this discussion via bulletin and announcements at the end of mass.

Being respectful of others: Fr. Tom addressed the council with regards to the topic of respectfulness. Society as a whole seems to lack the desire to discuss differences of opinion in a respectful manner. We, as parish leaders, are called to set the tone for good and respectful communication within the parish.

Team Building Retreat: A team-building retreat for the members of the Pastoral Council, Parish Staff, and the Finance Council has been planned for Friday, November 17, 2017 from 6:00pm-10:00pm in the Youth Center. There will be a viewing of "Remember the Titans", followed by an open discussion. This will be an opportunity for the leaders of the parish to foster respect and understanding, and to become better acquainted with one another. A suggestion was made to form a Communications Committee, perhaps employing someone who communicates for a living.

Communication of Information to Parishioners: It was suggested that any changes proposed for the parish be communicated to parishioners in a systematic way. Parishioners should have a "voice" in decision-making—through, for example, forums or parish wide meetings. Fr. Tom could write informational letters for the bulletin and the website regarding when new proposals are made.

Rebuilt Conference: This will be held in Maryland on April 16th and 17th. In order to receive the reduced conference fee of \$100 per person, five people are needed to sign up by November 30th. A schedule/syllabus of the conference was passed out and members were asked to discern attending and to contact Steve if interested.

Other Business:

Cor Unum: Jim Terry has taken over the coordination of this from Sue Levesque. The members of the council will hopefully be serving the fourth Thursday of January (25th). Steve to get PC email addresses to Sue L. for coordination/confirmation purposes w/Jim.

Statues: to be discussed next month.

Visiting Other Parishes: Council members are encouraged to attend mass celebrations at other churches. A discussion will take place on findings next month.

Next Council Meeting: November 9th at 7:15 PM at MQP Emmaus Room

Closing Prayer at 8:59pm: Fr. Al