

Saints Mary and Joseph Parish Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes  
November 9, 2017

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

**Council Members Not Present:** Deacon Jay Cormier, Deb Carney

**Guest:** Sue Levesque

**Call to Order:** 7:22PM

**Opening Prayer:** Steve (et al)

**Father Tom's Pastor Report:**

**34 Main Street (Yellow House):** The Purchase and Sale Agreement has been signed by the Diocesan Representatives. Once the Diocesan lawyers approve the agreement, the document will be signed by the Purchasing Party. The money from the sale of this property will be used to pay our loan for the MQP parking lot and to make repairs to St. Joseph church.

**Music Director:** A job description for this position is being finalized.

**Interior Designer:** An interior designer from the Exeter, NH area will be consulting with the Liturgy Committee as they move forward with deciding on a paint scheme for St. Joseph's church.

**Old Business Updates:**

**Promoting our Parish Ministries:** Kay Barretto has been working to update the 2014 Parish Ministry Booklet before beginning with the inserts (double sided) highlighting four ministries per month. Also, the difference between a Welcome Letter, a Welcome Packet, and a Welcome Bag was explained. Welcome Letter: Anyone who moves into the Salem area receives a welcome letter from the Parish. Welcome Packet: Once a registration form has been completed, this packet is mailed to the registrant and includes a personalized letter, information on various ministries, a ministry interest form, and a current bulletin. Welcome Bags: These are small mesh bags that contain a Rosary and a Welcome Prayer. These are in baskets at both campuses, and are intended for those who are guests or who are just visiting our parish.

**LED Lights at MQP:** The Knights of Columbus have very generously paid for these lights at a cost of \$1,900. Twelve of thirty lights have been replaced. All should be installed within the next few weeks.

**Computer for St. Joseph Campus:** We are looking to purchase a computer for use with the new projector at the 11:00 AM mass at St. Joe's. Debbie S. has a possible lead on a reseller, and Steve will contact him and other vendors as needed.

**Welcoming Community Subcommittee:** No new items to discuss this month.

**Building a Community/Social Subcommittee:** On December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-4:30pm, The Santa's Helpers Babysitting event will be offered at MQP for children who are bathroom trained to age ten. Lunch and snacks will be provided. There will be a limit of fifty children. The first portion of the day will consist of a story and crafts, and the Polar Express movie will be shown in the MQP Hall. Fliers and the standard Medical and Parental Release forms will be available in the back of the churches. This event will be announced at mass as well as advertised in the bulletin, on social media, the parish

website, and the Faith Formation page. The possibility of having a gathering to view a Patriots game was discussed. We must first check with the Salem Fire Chief regarding the capacity limit in the MQP Hall, as well as with the town about parishioners bringing adult beverages. There will further investigate.

**Embracing Hope Subcommittee:** Blessing of the Stuffedies/Comfort Items took place on October 28<sup>th</sup> and was a tremendous success!! There was a total of fifteen stuffedies and comfort items blessed by Fr. Tom. This will become an annual event. Kids Church Update: The total attendance numbers for September were 12 children. October's total attendance: 21. The enhancements of the Chromebook and Smart TV are being enjoyed by all. Sue L. mentioned that some of the Kids Church members have now “graduated” to Liturgy of the Word. Hence, we see the process of feeding into each program beginning with Toddler Time, Kids Church, Liturgy of the Word, and Faith Formation.

**Holiday Parade:** This event will take place on November 26<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the Parish Float is: Prayers to St. Nicholas. Volunteers are needed on that day to assist with float assembly as well as walking in the parade. There will be treat bags given out (Hershey Kisses and Candy Canes) with a card explaining the tradition of St. Nicholas. The bags will also contain postcards for the Keepsake Family Event to be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> as well as the Santa's Helpers Babysitting Event. This will help to expand our presence in the community as we seek to become more mission-oriented.

**Cor Unum:** Jim Terry is now the coordinator. The Pastoral Council will be serving on January 25<sup>th</sup>, and Jim will reach out to all members to confirm. Jim is also hoping to speak at the masses to enlist additional volunteers for other service dates.

**Team Building Retreat:** On November 17<sup>th</sup> in the Youth Center at the St. Joseph campus. Members of the Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Liturgy Committee, and the Parish Staff will gather to view the movie *Remember the Titans*. This will provide an opportunity to build deeper bonds among the leaders of the parish.

**Rebuilt Trip:** This conference will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in Maryland. So far, Kay and Steve Barretto as well as Fr. Tom will be attending. To have the reduced fee of \$100 per person, two more people are needed to attend. The deadline for the reduced fee is November 30<sup>th</sup>. Kristen and Chris will check their schedules and contact Steve.

#### **Other Business:**

**Visiting Other Parishes:** This topic will be discussed next month. Pastoral Council members were encouraged to continue to visit and observe masses at other parishes.

**Next Council Meeting:** December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm in the Emmaus Room at MQP

**Closing Prayer at 9:06pm:** Fr. Bill