

Pastoral Council Meeting December 7, 2015  
Minutes

**Present:** David Neu, Rita O'Neil, Betty Chrestensen, Marilyn Rodriguez, Pat Mellen, Kathy Burleson, Joan Butler, Elizabeth Licitra, and Ruth Licitra.  
**Staff:** Fr. Ed Hislop, Sr. Mary Jo Quinn, Deacon Ron Butler, and Judy Cooney.

**1. Gathering Prayer:** David led the Pastoral Council in prayer and reflection.

**2. Additions to the Agenda:** Fr. Ed suggested that the International Dinner be added to the Agenda.

**3. Year of Mercy:** The Year of Mercy begins December 8, 2015 in Rome. The Bishop will bless the door of the Cathedral on the Third Sunday of Advent and asked that the doors of the parishes of the Diocese be blessed on that Sunday as well. Mercy is to be the theme for Lent. Fr. Ed asked the Pastoral Council to think of ways we as a parish can extend mercy to those who might feel that they haven't had mercy granted to them.

**4. MaintainRenewImagine (MRI) Strategic Planning Team:** Fr. Ed and the Strategic Planning Team will meet with the architect (Carl Posowitz) on January 14, 2016 to prepare for a Parish meeting with the architect on Sunday, January 24, 2016 after the 10 am Mass. The architect will prepare a three-dimensional representation of the church building based on the current blueprint drawings of the building.

**5. New Year's Eve at Blessed Trinity:** Fr. Ed introduced the idea of having a New Year's Eve Pasty Party at the church as we have in other years. The party would begin after the 6 pm New Year's Eve Mass. Reservations will be taken and there will be a charge at the door. **Action: The Pastoral Council agreed to hold and facilitate the party. Rita will chair the event.** The event will be mentioned in this week's Bulletin.

**5a. International Dinner:** Sr. Mary Jo mentioned that she and Fr. Ed would be out of town the last Friday of January when the International Dinner has been traditionally held. **Action: The Pastoral Council agreed to move the International Dinner to Friday, February 5, 2016. Betty will chair the event.**

**6. Advent/Christmas Liturgy Schedule:** There will be a Penance Service held Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at 7 pm. Christmas Mass will be held Thursday, December 24, 2015 at 7 pm at both Spirit of Christ in Lolo and Blessed Trinity. Fr. Frank McCormick will celebrate Mass in Lolo, while Fr. Ed celebrates Mass at Blessed Trinity. Christmas Mass will be celebrated at Blessed Trinity at 10 am Friday, December 25, 2015. New Year's Mass will be celebrated Thursday, December 31, 2015 at 6 pm.

**7. Stewardship 2016:** Fr. Ed proposed that the theme of the 2016 Stewardship campaign should be Beacon of Hope; Promise of Mercy. Fr. Ed will meet soon with the Finance Council, possibly in January, on the stewardship drive. Blessed Trinity has not had a stewardship drive in the past two years. Fr. Ed would like to commit 10% (about \$25,000) of the budget to Social Outreach.

**9. No Room at the Inn Update:** Ruth reported that there had been 90 tickets sold so far. Joan and Louise Yamasaki are in charge of gathering baskets for the Raffle. There was an article in the Religion section of Saturday's Missoulian. This year, in addition to the Gala on Friday night, there will be a Guadalupe Breakfast on Saturday morning after Morning Prayer and a Christmas Tea on Sunday afternoon. It is hoped that there will be greater participation of Blessed Trinity parishioners.

**10. Faith Formation:** Judy reported that the December Formation will focus on Mary Our Mother and the January 2016 Formation will focus on the Holy Family. The Seeing the Word Bible Study will continue on Thursdays, December 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Joe Musselman will hold a Bible Study after Easter. Judy would like to continue the Soup and Bread/CRS Country of the Week Videos for Lent again this year.

**11. Concluding Prayer:** Ron led the Pastoral Council in prayer.

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will held **Monday January 4, 2016** at 7 pm. **Judy and David** will bring treats. **Joan** will lead the council in opening prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruth Licitra  
December 15, 2015