

Pastoral Council Meeting March 7, 2016
Notes

Present:

Members: Rita O'Neil, Joan Butler, Elizabeth Licitra, David Neu, Pat Mellen, Betty Chrestenson, Ruth Licitra, Marilyn Rodriguez, and Cathy Burleson.

Staff: Sr. Mary Jo Quinn, Fr. Ed Hislop, Deacon Ron Butler, and Judy Cooney.

1. Gathering Prayer:

Rita led the Pastoral Council in a reflection on the parable of the Prodigal Son as discussed on Sunday during Faith Formation.

2. Additions to the Agenda:

There were no additions to the Agenda.

3. Triduum Lent 2016:

Fr. Ed reported that there will be no major changes to Triduum this year except that we will not be using the large Cross for Veneration on Good Friday. Instead, we will be using the Processional Cross. Triduum will be celebrated Thursday, March 24 thru Sunday, March 27, 2016.

4. MaintainRenewImagine (MRI) Strategic Planning Team:

Fr. Ed led the discussion on the Full Parish Meeting with Architect Carl Posewitz on February 28, 2016. (The minutes and digital renderings of this meeting will be posted on the website soon.) The Strategic Planning Team met with Fr. Ed and Sr. Mary Jo on March 3, 2016 to discuss possible improvements for the next Full Parish meeting. There will be a subcommittee of the Strategic Planning Team that will meet soon to fix the process so that the Full Parish meeting is more structured. Some ideas for improvement included:

- ◆ An overview of where we've been in the process;
- ◆ An idea of the overall process directing the renovation plan
- ◆ Time for discussion among parishioners
- ◆ More Liturgical background to explain what the purpose and ideal end results are for the various features of the Church building: the Gathering Space, Sacristy, Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Marian Shrine, and Worship Space

The next Full Parish meeting will occur after Easter. Pastoral Council members need to keep their attitudes positive and remind parishioners that this is the "imagination" phase of the project. The next priorities are the Worship Space, Sacristy and lighting. Fr. Ed reminded the Pastoral Council that this project is being done with the support of the Diocese.

5. Chrism Mass:

Chrism Mass will be held at Saint Helena Cathedral on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 5 pm. There will be a Study Day held at prior to the Chrism Mass at Saint Mary's Church beginning at 1 pm. The speaker will be Fr. Paul Philibert, OP.

6. Making Disciples Workshop April 15—16, 2016:

Fr. Ed reported that parishioners can register for the Making Disciples workshop online through the Blessed Trinity website (www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org). This workshop is sponsored by the Diocese: the Diocese has given the workshop two grants. There are other Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) workshops in this series so it could become a multi-year event.

There are no catechumens at Blessed Trinity this year. Judy would like to have as many parishioners as possible attend this workshop. This will broaden the pool of parishioners available as team members for catechumens in the RCIA process.

7. Stewardship 2016: Beacon of Hope, Promise of Mercy:

There will be a mailing sent to parishioners this week. Each parishioner will be asked to sign a commitment to Presence, Ministry and Service, and Treasure. These commitment cards will then be processed forward as the Offertory. There will be a follow up done after Easter.

8. Family Promise Missoula:

Sr. Mary Jo reported that Family Promise of Missoula will merge with Missoula Interfaith Cooperative (MIC) on Tuesday, March 15, 2016. These two organizations were established around the same time and both focus on homelessness. But, whereas Family Promise focuses on interfaith hospitality, MIC focuses on other issues surrounding homelessness.

With the merger of Family Promise and MIC, Family Promise will become a program of MIC while still affiliated with the national Family Promise organization. There are other individual Family Promise organizations that are programs within an interfaith organization. MIC has access to Master of Social Work (MSW) interns and administrative staff that will allow both organizations to realize a cost savings by eliminating the duplication of administrative costs.

The Family Promise Board of Directors has dissolved. Three to four members will be added to the MIC Board of Directors. Family Promise policy will be directed by a steering committee comprised of volunteer coordinators from the various participating churches.

Sr. Mary Jo also proposed that Blessed Trinity and Grace Methodist (joint host parishes) get together for a joint social event after Easter. **The Pastoral Council agreed to visit this topic at the next meeting.**

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be held on **Monday, April 4, 2016 at 7pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Licitra

March 9, 2016