

Pastoral Council Meeting
November 13, 2017
Minutes

Present: Members: Rita O'Neil, David Neu, Cathy Bureson, Betty Chrestenson, Elizabeth Licitra, Ruth Licitra, and Joan Butler.

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

- 1. Gathering Prayer:** Rita led the Council in the Prayer for the Pastoral Planning Process for the Diocese of Helena.
- 2. Additions:** Ruth mentioned that the term for the current Council ends in May 2018. Fr. Ed asked that this item be postponed until next year.
- 3. Diocese of Helena Planning Process:** Rita led the Council in a discussion of the Listening Session held October 22, 2017. Cheryl Russell was the only attendee from Spirit of Christ. About 30 Blessed Trinity parishioners attended. The comments and summary sheets have been forwarded to the Diocese. Sr. Mary Jo reported that the Diocesan Pastoral Council will compile the documents from the various parishes into a diocesan plan. If all goes according to plan, this document will be dispersed in Fall 2018.
- 4. Liturgy:** Fr. Ed announced that Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated Wednesday, November 23rd at 12:10 pm. The Ecumenical Celebration will take place on Wednesday, November 23rd at 7 pm at First Presbyterian Church. Advent will begin on Sunday, December 3rd. The Advent Penance Service will be held on December 18th at 7 pm. Christmas Eve Mass will be celebrated at Spirit of Christ at 7 pm by Fr. Jack Darraugh. Mass at Blessed Trinity will be celebrated on Christmas Eve at 7 pm and on Christmas Day at 10 am.
- 5. Spirit of Christ Furnace:** Fr. Ed announced that Spirit of Christ has raised the funds necessary to replace their furnace. The furnace is in the process of being installed.
- 6. Ecumenical Vespers:** Fr. Ed reported that there were 750-800 people present at the Ecumenical Vespers at the Cathedral in Helena. There was a good representation from the Missoula Deanery present. He hopes to host an ecumenical event in Missoula. There is interest from the Missoula Lutherans. **This will be decided at Staff.**
- 7. Contemplative Rosary:** The Contemplative Rosary occurred October 25th. Council members who participated were positive about the experience.
- 8. Annual Catholic Appeal:** Fr. Ed reported that Blessed Trinity had reached 115% of its goal with 51% participation. In 2016, the goal was not reached until Christmas. Spirit of Christ is at 80% of its goal. Sr. Mary Jo commented that our participation rate is the highest in the Diocese.
- 9. Liturgical Minister Formation Report:** Lector Training occurred November 7th. While about half of the Lectors were present, council members who attended the training felt it was worthwhile. They commented that Daniel did a good job stressing the importance of Lector mindset and preparation.
- 10. No Room at the Inn (NRATI):** The 6th annual No Room at the Inn Crèche Festival will occur December 8—10th at Blessed Trinity. Sr. Mary Jo asked council members to take some Raffle tickets to sell. They are \$20 apiece. The prizes will be a seven night stay at Pend Oreille Shores Resort, Ludden Rocker Recliner from Ashley Furniture, and a Farmhouse Quilt. The event will close on Sunday after the Tea.

- 11. Faith Formation:** Judy reported that there was a good response to the Speakers at November's Faith Formation. The theme for December's Faith Formation is "Signs of the Times". Judy asked the council for ideas on how to encourage more people to come to Faith Formation.
- 12. Pastoral Care:** Ron reported that he continues to need more people to participate as Pastoral Care Ministers. He is looking for volunteers to follow up with people who have been absent.
- 13. Maintain/Renew/Imagine (MRI):** There will be a meeting of the MRI Steering Committee on November 16th to discuss the cost of the project and to schedule Whole Parish meetings.
- 14. International Dinner:** Betty asked that the International Dinner be moved to February or March.
- 15. Spanish Mass:** Sr. Mary Jo reported that the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated on December 12th at St. Francis Xavier Church.
- 16. Giving Tree:** Sr. Mary Jo reported that she has volunteers to organize the Giving Tree this year.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be held on **Monday December 4, 2017**, at 7 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:
Ruth Licitra
November 28, 2017