

Pastoral Council Meeting Notes
June 19, 2024

Present: Fr. Andy Switzer, Colin Hayden, Shana Harris, Patrick Green, Brendan Jarrell, Christine Wiegman, Heather Garcia

Not present: Vanessa Santiago, Derrick Gallagher

Roles: Pastor: Fr. Andy; Co-chairs: Colin Hayden, Christine Wiegman; Prayer leader: Vanessa Santiago (led by Fr. Andy today); Recorder: Brendan Jarrell

Opening Prayer: Led by Fr. Andy

Reflection on Habukuk 2: 1-4

UPDATES/QUICK BUSINESS:

-Parish directory – 2nd date for photos- Chuck Pierpont/Fr. Andy

-Ministry Guide –update on the manual and individual ministries will be requested to write a mission statement for their ministries - Fr. Andy wants to develop a Time Treasure Talent survey for Parish connected to Stewardship plan/Ministries guide. This will be lead by Christine and Colin

-Parish Picnic Date - Connie - Sept. Sunday date with no 8 am Mass and picnic following the 10:30 Mass. Fr. Andy explained that parish must be united and gather at one time to get to know the whole community rather than be divided between Mass times.

-Adult Faith formation team possibilities some names floated by Fr. Andy who will follow up by talking to those people.

-Suggestions for new PC members to begin in the fall after the retreat.

-Ecumenical liaison for Shepherdstown churches (Shepherdstown Ministerial Association)– name suggested by Fr. Andy

-Pastoral Council participation in parish life – Fr. Andy encouraged all members to participate in a wide variety of parish events and Masses.

MAIN AGENDA ITEMS:

Vision / Leadership Presentation follow-through. Developing a vision statement for the Pastoral Council.

Question posed by Fr. Andy: "What do we do for the parish?" Answers included:

- +To be involved in the mission is to be integrated in the community.
- +A mission statement should describe what you're already doing (if you're doing it right)
- +Every ministry / committee in the parish should have a mission statement.
- +Each member chose one word from our "What do you ask of God's church?" exercise to highlight as we began to formulate a mission statement.
- +We want everyone to feel invited into the life of the parish.
- +We empower the people to use their gifts in service of the community.
- +We nurture and tend to the spiritual needs/growth for all; mass and the eucharist, but more than that.
- +Centrifugal force of the church.
- + Growth and relationship with Christ and God.
- +A lot of times, people look at the church as something old and out of date.
- +Responding as a PC to the voice of the Holy Spirit
- +We want to respond as a pastoral council to an ever-changing world in the 21st century

Potential vision statements for the Pastoral Council:

1. We respond to the hopes and aspirations of our church community in our contemporary, ever-changing world.
2. As representatives of the parish, we strive to empower the gifts of our diverse parish community in support of the spiritual life of the whole person. We also support the growth and relationship with Christ throughout all stages of life so we can live our life in faith.
3. Listening and responding to the voice of our community in today's world (the 21st century).

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: August 21st. No meeting in July.