

**Parish Pastoral Council Minutes of May 22,
2018 Meeting Ministry Center – Fr. Joseph
Firnbach Meeting Room**

Present: Father Ryan, Laura Angelini, Marty Bush, Mike Carlino, Laurie Haas, Terry Huels, Pam Lynch,

Mimi McGlauchlin, Tom Purtell, Judy Reilly, Kyle Schmitt, Jason Sfire,
John Sfire, Stewart Tanakatsubo

Absent: Jim Battaglia, John Ergastalo, Patricia Linares, Doug Samz (all excused)

Note Taker: Grace Duffy

Father Ryan began the meeting at 7pm with the Renew My Church prayer for the Archdiocese and our parish.

**1. Fix-it Together
Campaign**

a. A progress report for the Ministry Center was distributed which explained how Martin Enterprises

Heating and Air Conditioning has successfully broken down, removed, and disposed of the existing 20- ton fan coil, in-line heaters and condenser. The new equipment is in place and the ducting has been completed. We expect to complete the final connections for controls, electric, gas, drain, and refrigerant lines in May.

b. We have locked in costs for the following areas that still need to be completed: Remaining paved

areas, Ministry Center HVAC units, demo and remediation of the old church building, and new flooring for the church. The blueprints for the new storage garage are complete. It will have brown vinyl siding and a trench foundation, and we expect to have a building permit in two to three weeks. There are three sites on the parish grounds that are being considered for the location based on utilities and cost. We are planning to use some of the old bricks to make a cross monument in remembrance of the first parish church. Our next step is to redo the flooring in the church and complete the back parking lot. Overall, this plan is expected to be completed in a year and a half.

**2. Parish
School**

a. St. Francis de Sales parish school currently has 307 students enrolled for the 2018-2019

school year. With a rate of more than one new student registering per week, we estimate there to be about 325 students enrolled before school begins.

b. The four visions for the future were presented and described by Principal Kyle Schmitt. The first goal is

to have a guaranteed and viable curriculum that is visible to all. The second is to clearly communicate to prospective families that St. Francis de Sales possesses a strong family culture that is apparent in the parish school. The third goal is to further strengthen the math program. The last vision presented was to have a new round of constituent feedback that will be reviewed by a new board next year for strategic planning.

c. Everyone unanimously acknowledged the outstanding first year of our Principal who is leading the

school to continued success built on the previous success of principals, teachers, religious sisters, families and pastors since 1956. Also, we recognized the large strides made at the school to implement safety measures for the children and faculty. Safety and security is an on-going priority.

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3. Youth Ministry/Teen Life

a. Pam Lynch discussed changes to the Confirmation program. The program is shifting from a modified

Life Teen program to a DVD discussion based program. This way, if a student cannot attend a class, they will still be able to watch the DVD and learn the lesson. The program is moving towards a more active, engaging curriculum that everyone is very excited about. For first year Confirmation students, we are going to participate in the Archdiocese event, Holy Fire, to start out the year. This program includes faith speakers, bands and even lunch with Cardinal Cupich. For second year Confirmation students, we are rearranging the retreat dates so all of the students will attend the Castle retreat in the beginning of the year, so they can dive into deeper discussions about their faith as the year progresses. Pam also proposed moving the Confirmation class time from after mass to before mass, which clears up any conflict with Life Teen events.

4. Religious Education

a. Mimi McGlauchlin presented the highlights for Religious Education. The grand total of

students

enrolled in Religious Education is 616 students. We had eight children in our Children's Catechumenate program. 108 children (2nd graders and Children's Catechumenate) received their First Reconciliation in February where we had Fr. DeGall and Fr. Fortunado here to assist Fr. Ryan in the church. Also, we have had 100 second grade students receive the sacrament of First Communion in May and June. We saw great results from the worship music Josh Goodman brought to the program with the children. Josh also sang at our Family Mass on April 23rd, and it was great to hear the children sing songs they had learned from the previous classes. Laurie Haas joined the Religious Education team in March 2018 to take on the position of Administrative Assistant, and Laurie has been helping in the office planning and leading the middle school classes. Mary Jo Kunzman and Rebecca Gabrione were also vital in making the whole program run smoothly.

b. Looking towards the future, the Religious Education program is trying to bridge middle school and

high school. We discussed how we have to meet the children where they are in their spiritual process and journey with them. We will be using the Edge program for our middle school curriculum in the new school year. This program used out of the box activities to relate to teachings of the church, which have led to great results. The Religious Education program will also focus on reaching the parents, as well as the children. Full cooperation is necessary to maximize the spiritual experience for the children.

5. Intentional Discipleship

a. Judy Reilly explained the meaning of intentional discipleship and the steps of discipleship. The goal is

to form intentional disciples, who are people who have given their life over to Jesus and are ACTIVELY pursuing Him in the midst of His Church. The steps to get to this point include a Making, Maturing and Missioning phase. We focused in on the making phase, defining it as the time where you are encountering Jesus. A main point Judy stressed was that one must bring people to Jesus, but we need to accompany them.

b. Some highlights were mentioned, one of which being that we are blessed to have 45 parishioners

enthusiastically commit to weekly 2-hour evening session from October to May with Equip. Also, the Called and Gifted Charism Workshop was held in April, and it discerned individual charisms to more

effectively build up the body of Christ. Another event, which had positive results across the board was the Threshold Conversations, 15 guests were invited from outside our parish to pair with a couple Equip members who listened to the guest's relationship (or lack of) with God. This event allowed Equip members to practice listening to another's story, be able to assess where that person is at in their faith journey, and be able to accompany them along the rest of their journey. Judy also mentioned the Second Generation Discipleship Vision as an upcoming event. This is the parish vision for addressing Archdiocese's Maturing and Missioning phases. This will be open to the whole parish and will run from October 2018 to March 2019 by Deacon Keith Strohm.

Fr. Ryan concluded the meeting at 9:45 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.