

Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of December 14, 2017 Meeting

Present: Fr. David F. Ryan, Laura Angelini, Jim Battaglia, Marty Bush, Mike Carlino, John Ergastalo, Terry Huels, Thomas Purtell, Judy Reilly, Doug Samz, Kyle Schmitt, Jason Sfire, Pam Urban

Absent: Patricia Linares, Pam Lynch, Stewart Tanakatsubo (all excused)

Note Taker: Julie Morones, Parish Staff

The Renew My Church prayer was offered to begin the meeting by Fr. Ryan.

1. Fix It Campaign

- a. Doug Samz distributed a worksheet showing the \$1.7 million budget, indicating items completed through today's date, the cost and savings on each project, and projects that are still open. Because of the significant cost savings, additional projects were able to be completed that were not in the initial plan which included replacing the roofs on the west side and chapel of the church, installing a new HVAC unit in the church, and the installation of new safety doors and related accessories at the parish school and religious education ministry.

Other projects planned for 2018 include the demolition and removal of the old church, construction of a new storage building, installation of new church flooring, and repaving the west parking lot. There is an expected shortfall even if all the pledges made so far are received in full. The Parish needs more pledges. Everything done to date is paid for, and the parish will pay as the projects are completed. Less than 700 families have pledged from the total of 4,500 families. \$1625 is the average pledge per family. \$333,000 still has to be collected from donors. Father Ryan would like everything done by June 30th. It is important to note that the Parish eliminated the previous \$3.8 million debt without any capital campaigns, which allowed for the parish to initiate the Fix-It Capital Campaign in May 2017.

- b. Jason Sfire distributed the handout that he had provided at the September meeting and went through and discussed the before and after pictures of each completed project which included: new roofs on the church and ministry center, new siding on the ministry center, the new parking lots at the ministry center and front of school, new landscaping, new curbs at school, the removal of the pipe bollards, additional four feet of sidewalk at the school, new roof over chapel, and updated school security with bullet proof glass. Jason Sfire also announced that every door at the school will have 3M film installed to prevent forced entry. The Ministry Center and Father Valker Hall basement windows will also eventually be done.

Jason Sfire pointed out the main reason for the savings was due to *value engineering*, which is finding a more efficient way to complete a project.

2. Evangelization through Intentional Discipleship

Pam Urban and Judi Reilly presented on EQUIP (Intentional Discipleship) on behalf of Pam Lynch who is visiting her daughter in Florida.

- a. Pam began by discussing how this group began in June 2016 when it was announced in the church bulletin and parishioners were invited to attend a one day workshop. Sherry Weddell and Deacon Keith Strohm were the lead speakers. After that workshop, a core group was formed. Deacon Strohm is now a partner with our Parish. Every Tuesday for eight months the group of about 50 parishioners attends from 7 – 9 pm. Many people have been inquiring about joining this discipleship. The core group is hoping to start another group in early Fall 2018.
- b. Judi Reilly provided the council with a summary of the discipleship group and its purpose. She discussed what intentional discipleship is and that an intentional disciple is one who has given his life over to Jesus and who has entrusted him or herself to Jesus and actively pursues him. Judi said that this has always been the mission of the church. Ways of how to develop a relationship with Jesus are outlined in the handout that was distributed. Judi also discussed how it is difficult to reach out to our culture now and that Deacon Strohm said this generation can relate to personal experience and our stories.

Judi discussed where the group is currently and that they are being taught to assess where people are in their faith journey. People are excited, and the knowledge they are gaining is moving from their heads to their hearts. There is the spirit of multiplication. If each person that is touched by this evangelization brings two or three others into the next group, this discipleship will multiply. They are discussing ways how to integrate intentional discipleship to parish ministries.

3. Update on the Parish School Marketing Plan

Tom Purtell and Marty Bush distributed a handout for the parish school 2017 – 2018 Marketing Plan.

The marketing team is trying to achieve 1% enrollment growth in the 2018 - 2019 school year, which equates to enrolling a total of 75 new students. They want to maintain a growth environment and discussed reducing the cost barrier strategy with four main programs: Tuition referral, introductory tuition discount, donor funded aid, and Illinois tax credit scholarships. Details of each program are in the handout they distributed. Introductory tuition discount and donor funded aid are needs based.

Applications for the Illinois Tax Credit scholarships will in January. There will be a big push to market these programs from January to April. Aide will be given on first come, first serve

basis. Unfortunately, Lake Zurich is not a focus area. Tom Purtell or Marty Bush will find out if donors can earmark their contributions to a specific school rather than a region.

School Principal Kyle Schmitt indicated that the Blue Ribbon application will be finished and submitted on December 15 from the school to the U.S. Department of Education.

Father Ryan conveyed appreciation for Kyle Schmitt as the Principal with his Catholic faith, leadership, vision, vigor, positive approach, teamwork approach, curriculum development, teachers' formation development and accountability, student interactions, communication, collaboration, and collegiality.

Father Ryan also expressed appreciation that Marty Bush, School Board Chair from 2006 – 2012, and Thomas Purtell, current PPC Chair, are involved in the marketing and development of the parish school as well as advisors to the Principal.

There will be a push during Catholic Schools Week in January to attract new students. The three year old Pre-School is a significant challenge because it involves bringing in new students. Re-enrollment starts the week of January 15, and there will be a personal email invitation to a tour during Catholic Schools Week sent to Parish families with children entering Preschool and Kindergarten as well as to all Religious Education families. The marketing group is putting together an information sheet and will send out a targeted postcard mailing to certain Volo, Lake Zurich, Mundelein and Indian Creek residents in mid-January. They realize that St. Francis is competing with public schools that offer free full time kindergarten.

4. Update on the Emergency Operation Plan:

Father Ryan indicated that on January 24, a FBI agent will come to the Parish to give a presentation to the community on having an emergency operation plan. Deputy Chief Tom Hardy from the Fire Department will be assisting with this presentation. Hopefully, the parish can network with Good Shephard Hospital and the Village of Lake Zurich to provide active shooter training. The parish is also working with Deputy Chief Johnson from the Police Department and Joseph Pasquesi, a former FBI agent and a parishioner, to assist with the implementation of an emergency operation plan. A core group of teachers met with Laura Angelini and Father Ryan last year to discuss security at school and provided leadership which helped start this initiative under the direction of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The Parish will keep revisiting this issue and making improvements as necessary. Security still needs to be reviewed at the Ministry Center, Youth Ministry, Religious Education Ministry, and the Church. This will be an ongoing process.

Pam Urban brought up her concern regarding parents opening the security door for other parents, and Kyle said he would address this issue at the school.

5. Director of Religious Education

Father Ryan announced that in mid-January, Kathy Brady-Murfin will be leaving our parish to take on a new position as Vocation Director for the United States Province of the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary in Kankakee. She asks for our prayers as she takes on this challenging role. The parish is grateful for the 11 years that Kathy Brady-Murfin directed our religious education ministry.

6. Father Ryan concluded the meeting with a closing prayer.